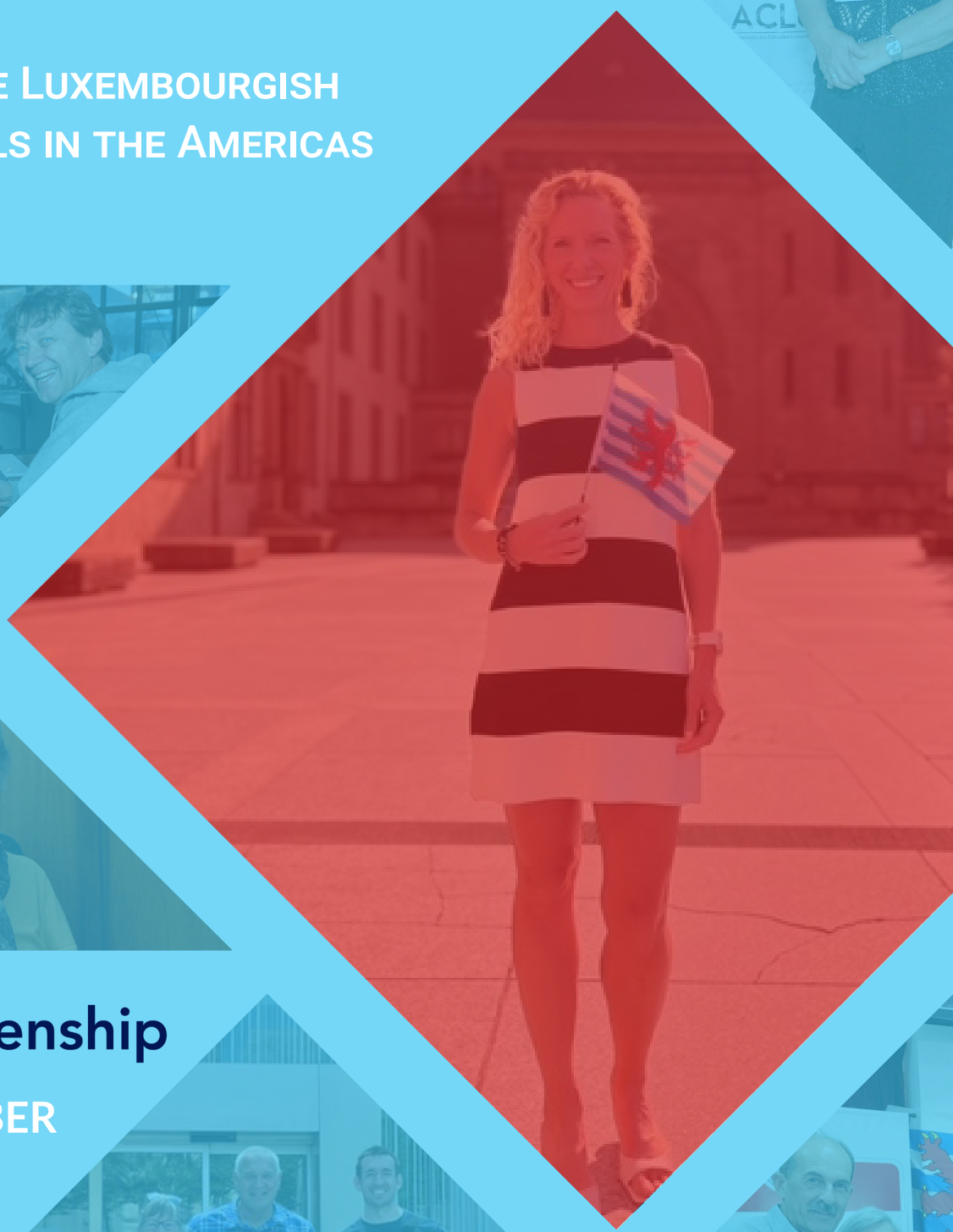
THE LUXCITIZENSHIP STUDY 2024

A study of the Luxembourgish Dual Nationals in the Americas



LuxCitizenship

NOVEMBER 2024

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Opening Letter

Dear Readers,

Luxembourg is currently witnessing a phenomenon of global significance: in just the last five years alone, our nation has gained a group of **36,534** new nationals—a figure equivalent to nearly **5.4%** of our total population. What makes this group particularly extraordinary is not its size, but the fact that these new nationals are all born and living in the United States, Brazil, and Argentina alone.

This remarkable development traces its roots back to 2008, when Luxembourg liberalized its Nationality Act to allow dual nationality for the first time. Among the new pathways to nationality was a temporary provision enabling descendants of any Luxembourgish national alive on 1 January, 1900, to reclaim their ancestral nationality. No one could have predicted just how transformative this change would be.

By 30 June 2024, the population of Luxembourgish nationals in Brazil had grown to **28,574**, while in the United States, it reached **16,111**. To put this into perspective, the Luxembourgish population in the United States alone would be larger than our country's seventh-largest commune, Hesperange. In Brazil, it would rival Differdange, our third-largest commune. These are not just statistics—they reflect a significant and ongoing shift in our national demographics.

The year 2023 alone saw an influx of **2,704** new Luxembourgish nationals in the United States and a staggering **7,693** in Brazil. This surge can be attributed largely to the extension of the deadline to reclaim Luxembourgish nationality, which was initially set for 2020 but, due to COVID-19, was extended first to 2021 and then to December 2025. As a result, applications submitted in late 2022, when the deadline was further extended, were processed in early 2023, leading to an unprecedented number of new nationals.

The total number of dual nationals through ancestry across Brazil, the U.S., and Argentina surpassed **40,000** in 2024, and this number is expected to grow through 2025. Luxembourgish Dual Nationals through ancestry now account for over **9%** of all Luxembourgish nationals.

Since 2018, I have been keenly aware of the potential impact this growing population could have on Luxembourg's future. This realization led to the launch of an annual study dedicated to understanding these new Luxembourgish nationals. Each year, we have expanded our research; incorporating surveys, historical analyses, and interactive data to better understand the backgrounds and intentions of these dual nationals. While our work initially focused on the United States, we recognized the need to include Brazil in 2021 and Argentina in 2023 due to the significant numbers of dual nationals in these countries.

As we continue this research, our goal is not only to understand who these new Luxembourgish nationals are but also to anticipate the potential effects their presence may have on Luxembourg. This research project is a vital step in demystifying this population and preparing for the future.

Sincerely,
Daniel Atz, Founder, LuxCitizenship.com

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Methodology

Introduction & Context

This research report presents the findings from LuxCitizenship's survey of 1,174 confirmed Luxembourgish dual nationals through ancestry born in the USA, Brazil, and Argentina. The survey aims to gather information about these individuals' demographic information and backgrounds, perceptions and the use of their newly claimed Luxembourgish nationality, as well as exploring their relationships with Luxembourg and the European Union.

According to the National Registry of Physical Persons, between 1 July 2019, and 30 June 2024, the number of Luxembourgish nationals abroad grew by 88.5% from 75,103 to 141,542[1].

As of 30 June 2019, the 8,712 Luxembourgers living in the United States, Brazil, and Argentina made up 11.6% of the total Luxembourgish nationals abroad. By comparison, at that time Luxembourg's three border countries had 58,105 resident Luxembourgish nationals making up 77% of the Luxembourgers abroad.

As of 30 June 2024, the population in these three countries in the Americas has grown by an astonishing 420% to 45,272, increasing to 32% of the Luxembourgers abroad. At the same time, the population of Luxembourgers in the three border countries grew by 41% to 81,980, decreasing to 58% of the Luxembourgish nationals abroad.

At the same time, STATEC data shows that from 2018-2022 only 249 Luxembourgers[2] moved to these three countries combined. Therefore, the amount of new Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry granted over the last five years living in these three countries alone is equivalent to the population of Esch-sur-Alzettte. This underscores the importance of possessing objective data about this unique population.

[1] "Registre National Des Personnes Physiques RNPP: Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger." Data Public Luxembourg, www.data.public.lu/fr/datasets/registre-national-des-personnes-physiques-rnpp-nombre-de-luxembourgeois-habitant-a-letranger.html.

[2] Information provided by STATEC in an email to our organization dated January 24th, 2023

Methodology

Our survey attempts to act as an initial comparative overview of the three populations. 1,174 adult Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry responded to our survey. Breaking it down, 124 Argentine-Luxembourgers (11%), and 634 Brazilian-Luxembourgers (54%), while 416 are American-Luxembourgers (35%). Although each participant is a Luxembourgish national, for facility of language, throughout this report we will refer to them as American, Argentine, and Brazilian survey "respondents."

METHODOLOGY

We conducted our study by using an online survey on our website, luxcitizenship.com. To participate, respondents had to be confirmed dual nationals of Luxembourg through ancestry. We promoted the survey through our and partner organizations' websites, social media, and email lists, as well as on public social media groups for Luxembourgish dual nationals by ancestry. The survey was written in the native language of the three countries by native speakers.

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

LUXEMBOURG BROTHERHOOD OF AMERICA

ASSOCIATION OF LUXEMBOURGISH CITIZENS IN BRAZIL

ARGENTINE LUXEMBOURG ASSOCIATION

We couldn't find a way to confirm if respondents truly had Luxembourgish dual nationality without invading their privacy. As a result, we only accepted responses where information about the respondents Luxembourgish ancestor was provided and where we could verify the ancestor's information in the Luxembourgish civil records. We rejected approximately 100 additional responses. Because ancestry became an assessment basis, we contacted all respondents who did not provide ancestor information to request and verify it.

Each survey consisted of a maximum of 30 questions, including a mix of yes/no, multiple-choice, and fill-in-the-blank formats. Logical dependencies in the survey design meant many respondents encountered only 20 questions or less.

Our results include confidence levels and margins of error. These metrics were computed using the Sample Size Calculator provided by Raosoft, Inc[1]. Based on this calculator, when looking at the Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry from the three countries as a whole, our statistical level of confidence is 97% with a margin of error of 5%.

[1] "Sample Size Calculator." Raosoft, www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html.

Luxembourg Public Data Research

We leverage Luxembourg government data to conduct in-depth analyses of the growth in the Luxembourgish Dual National population and migration trends in Luxembourg.

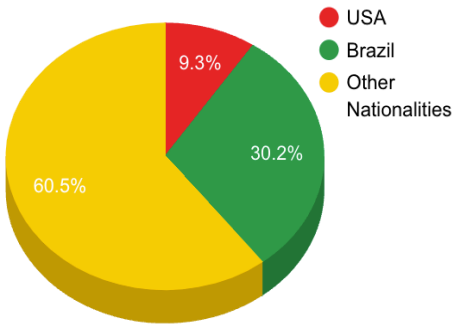
LUXEMBOURG PUBLIC DATA RESEARCH

2024 NUMBERS

According to the Ministry of Justice[1], as of 1 January 2024, **40,641** adults had recovered their Luxembourgish nationality through an ancestor alive on 1 January 1900 (Article 89).

This total number includes 12,269 Brazilians and 3,797 Americans, accounting for **39.5%** of those who have recovered Luxembourgish nationality through ancestry.

Recovered Nationality by Country



In 2022 and 2023, Brazilians, more than any other country, accounted for the largest number of new Luxembourgish nationals across all nationality procedures.

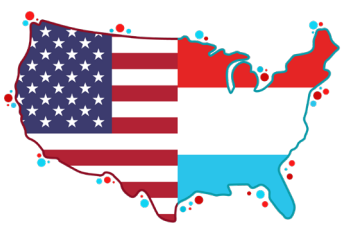
EXCEPTIONS

These statistics do not include children under the age of 18, or those who have obtained nationality through other means.

Due to their direct male lineage to a Luxembourgish ancestor, many people have never legally lost their Luxembourgish nationality. This is commonly called the Article 7 nationality procedure[2]. The Luxembourg Ministry of Justice directly issues a certificate of nationality to these people, but does not publish related statistical data.

LUXEMBOURGEOIS HABITANT À L'ÉTRANGER

Therefore, the best way to determine how many people have truly obtained nationality through ancestry is from the RNPP – National Registry of Physical Persons'[3] statistics. According to the RNPP, as of 30 June 2024, there are:



16,111 Luxembourgish nationals living in the US

(+409 since 31.3.24)

28,574 Luxembourgish nationals living in Brazil

(+424 since 31.3.24)

587 Luxembourgish nationals living in Argentina

(+5 since 31.3.24)

[1] Luxembourg. Ministry of Justice. "Les Statistiques En Matière De Nationalité Luxembourgeoise." Luxembourg Ministry of Justice, www.mj.gouvernement.lu/fr/dossiers/2020/nationalite-luxembourgeoise.html.

[2] "Article Seven Luxembourg Citizenship." LuxCitizenship, www.luxcitizenship.com/article-seven-lux-citizenship/.

[3] "Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger."

LUXEMBOURG PUBLIC DATA RESEARCH

FOREIGN COUNTRIES WITH MOST LUXEMBOURGISH RESIDENTS

Q2 2024 saw below average growth in Luxembourgers living abroad compared to most quarters in the last five years.

Country	Luxembourgish Nationals
France	33,530 (+266 since 31.3.24)
Brazil	28,574 (+424 since 31.3.24)
Belgium	27,521 (+159 since 31.3.24)
Germany	20,929 (+232 since 31.3.24)
United States	16,111 (+409 since 31.3.24)

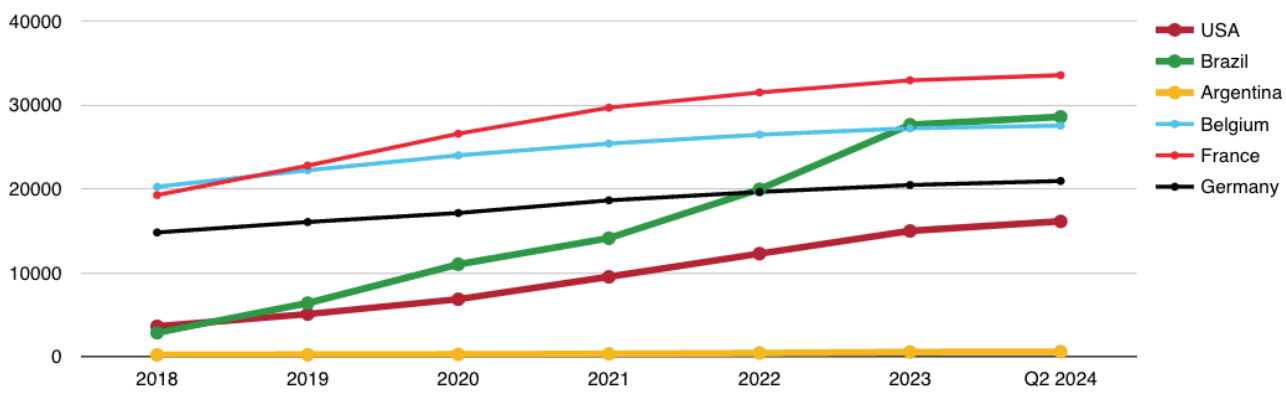
TREND COMPARISON

Historically, the largest concentration of Luxembourgers abroad was in Luxembourg's neighboring countries, Belgium, France, and Germany. However, in August 2023, Brazil overtook Belgium to become the second foreign country with the highest number of resident Luxembourg nationals.

Countries	Q2 2024	Q2 2019
Americas (AR, BR, US)	45,2724 (32%)	8,712 (11.6%)
Neighbors (BE, DE, FR)	81,980 (58%)	58,015 (77%)
Worldwide	141,542	75,103

RAPID GROWTH

RNPP data[1] shows that over the last five years, the population of Luxembourgers in the Americas has increased by 420%, while the population in Luxembourg's border countries has only increased by 41%.

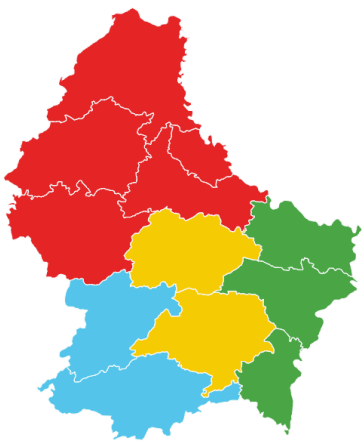


[1] "Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger."

LUXEMBOURG PUBLIC DATA RESEARCH

POPULATION OF LUXEMBOURG 2024

Data on the Luxembourgish government's Open Data Platform provides ongoing updates about the population of Luxembourg as well as the total number of Luxembourgers living inside the country and abroad.



As of 1 July 2024:

Total population: 676,685[1]

- Luxembourgers: 357,865 (53%)
- Foreigners: 318,820 (47%)

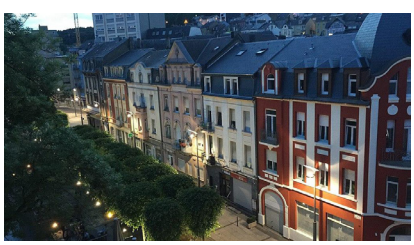
Luxembourgers (Worldwide): 499,317[2]

- In the country: 357,865 (72%)
- Outside the country: 141,452 (28%)

Luxembourgish nationals in the Americas are now equivalent to **6.7%** of Luxembourg's population and **9%** of all Luxembourgish nationals worldwide.

PUTTING IT IN PERSPECTIVE

If the population of Luxembourgish nationals in the United States and Brazil were communes in Luxembourg, they would be almost equivalent to:



Brazil: Differdange

3rd Largest Commune

30,452 Inhabitants[3]

United States: Hesperange

7th Largest Commune

16,936 Inhabitants[3]

[1] "Nombre de Ressortissants par Nationalité et par Commune - Number of Citizens per Nationality and Municipality."

[2] "Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger."

[3] Data Public Luxembourg. "Population par Commune - Population per Municipality." https://data.public.lu/fr/datasets/registre-national-des-personnes-physiques-rnpp-population-par-commune-population-per-municipality/.

Image: EEJCC, Differdange Centre, Wikimedia Commons, 2017.

Image: MMFE, Hesperange 02, Wikipedia, 2010.

LUXEMBOURG PUBLIC DATA RESEARCH

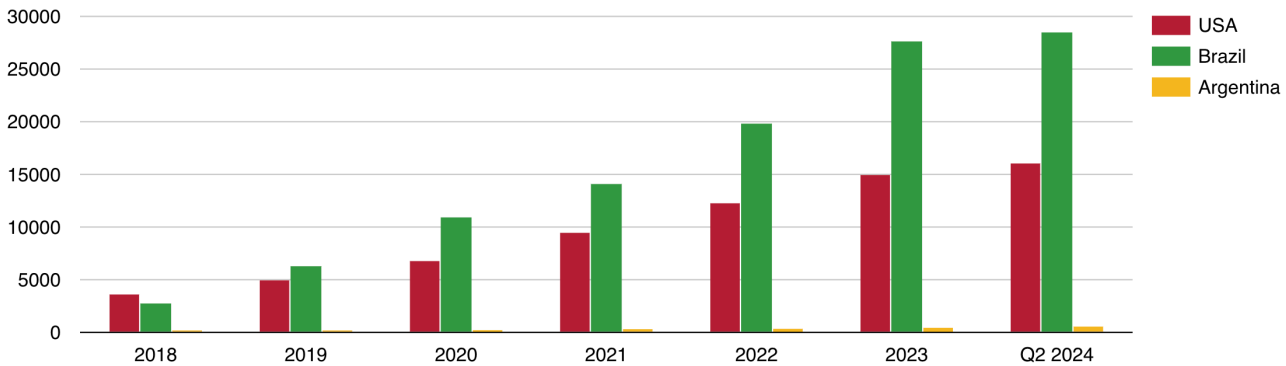
To put it another way, the increase in Luxembourgish nationals living in these the USA and Brazil in 2023 alone would be equivalent to the populations of the following communes:

Brazil: Wiltz
19th Largest Commune

United States: Koerich
62nd Largest Commune

RECENT GROWTH

The number of people who have obtained Luxembourgish dual nationality in the last two years alone represents **37%** of all Luxembourgish nationals living in the US **49%** in Brazil.



OUR FORECASTS FOR 2025

By analyzing the growth per quarter of nationals in Brazil and the USA since 31 December 2018, we predict that by 31 December 2025, the population of Luxembourgers will be:

32,122 Luxembourgish nationals living in Brazil

19,909 Luxembourgish nationals living in the US

Image: Ipigott, Koerich Church 2, Wikipedia, 2009.
Image: Commune de Wiltz, Land of Memory.

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law And Dual Nationality

We explore the evolution of the Luxembourgish Nationality Law over time & what led to the concept of dual nationality in Luxembourg.

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law And Dual Nationality

History of the Law

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg came into existence following the Treaty of Vienna in 1815. During the period immediately after, Luxembourg adhered to the Napoleonic or Civil Code inherited from the French Republic. Notably, it was not until 1841 that Luxembourg established its own Fundamental Law. The adoption of a constitution did not occur until 1848.

The Napoleonic Code represented a groundbreaking legal framework for its time, pioneering the concept of 'Jus sanguinis' or nationality by blood. This legal doctrine deviated from the prevailing 'jus soli,' which conferred subjecthood to anyone born within the territory of a feudal lord. 'Jus sanguinis' introduced a novel paradigm, emphasizing an individual's relationship with the state that was independent of feudal land claims. It is worth noting that the Napoleonic Code was conspicuously and intentionally patriarchal, reflecting Napoleon's belief that the management of all affairs fell under the purview of men.[1]

GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG.

Certificat de Nationalité—Nº 44290

pour [redacted]

né(e) le 15 mars 1892

à [redacted]

Père Pierre

né le 21 octobre 1863

à Luxembourg-Merl

Mère [redacted]

La personne ci-dessus est de nationalité luxembourgeoise par filiation

et les autorités n'ont pas connaissance qu'elle ait perdu cette nationalité.

Valable jusqu'au 9 novembre 19 oo-soixante

Luxembourg, le 9 novembre 19 oo cinquante-cinq

Ministère de la Justice,

Le Conseiller de Gouvernement-délégué.

DURÉE DE VALIDITÉ: 5 ANS

Understanding the foundational tenets of Luxembourgish nationality necessitates an examination of the Napoleonic Code. Under its provisions, a child born to a Luxembourgish father, whether within Luxembourg's territorial bounds or abroad, would acquire Luxembourgish nationality based on 'jus sanguinis'. Conversely, Article 12 of the Code stipulated that a woman who married a foreigner would assume her spouse's nationality, a condition compounded by the prohibition of dual or multiple nationality, resulting in the loss of her Luxembourgish nationality.

It wasn't until 1934 that Luxembourg enacted a comprehensive nationality law (then referred to as the "law on the indigenous"). At this juncture, women gained a mechanism for preserving or regaining their nationality upon marrying a foreigner. However, this provision was subsequently revoked in the shadow of the Nazi invasion of 1940, further exacerbating the challenges faced by Luxembourgish women in maintaining their nationality.

Throughout Luxembourg's history, many women lost their Luxembourgish nationality. Due to situations including divorces and conflicts between legal systems, women ocassionally became stateless. Only in 1968, with the introduction of the initial "Law on Luxembourgish nationality," did women gain the possibility of retaining their Luxembourgish nationality when marrying a foreigner, even if they acquired foreign nationality concurrently.

[1] Scuto, Denis. La Nationalité Luxembourgeoise (XIXe-XXIe Siècles): Histoire d'un Alliage Européen. Preface by Gérard Noiriel, Éditions de l'Université de Bruxelles, 2012.
Image Source: www.Delcampe.net

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law And Dual Nationality

In 1986, another significant development occurred, granting women the ability to transmit their Luxembourgish nationality to their offspring, rather than it being solely contingent on the father's nationality. This change applied retroactively to all minor children born on or after 1 January 1969.

The watershed moment arrived in 2008 when Luxembourg implemented its first Nationality Law that allowed any Luxembourgish national to hold multiple nationalities. An integral feature of this law was the opportunity for women who had lost their nationality, or their descendants, to reclaim Luxembourgish nationality, provided they completed their applications within ten years of the law's enactment. Anyone with a direct lineage ancestor, male or female, who was alive and possessed the Luxembourgish nationality on 1 January 1900, could reclaim Luxembourgish nationality themselves. Remarkably, the lawmakers of Luxembourg likely could not have foreseen the profound implications and popularity of this provision. Between 2009 and early 2017, 577 Americans, 14 Argentines, and 277 Brazilians[1] successfully reclaimed Luxembourgish nationality under this law. It is noteworthy that 57 of our survey respondents (comprising 5% of the total) acquired their nationality through this legislative mechanism.

A decade later, in 2017, Luxembourg's nationality law underwent another revision. This revision entailed a transformation of Article 29 into Article 89, accompanied by the incorporation of additional provisions. The process for reclaiming Luxembourgish nationality is a two-step procedure, first involving the validation of the ancestor's Luxembourgish nationality and subsequently necessitating an in-person application in Luxembourg for the individual seeking to recover this nationality. The 2008 law set a single deadline for both steps, allowing the Ministry of Justice to continue accepting initial applications right up until the final deadline.

This situation would have left some valid applicants unable to complete the second step of the application, the in-person citizenship declaration, before the final cut-off date. To address this, the deadline for the first step in the application was left at 31 December, 2018, but the deadline for the in-person declaration process was extended to 31 December, 2020, and finally 31 December, 2025.

Within the time frame from 2017 to December 31st, 2022, a total of 34 Argentines, 2,604 Americans, and 7,988 Brazilians adults successfully reclaimed Luxembourgish nationality under the provisions of Article 89.

[1] Luxembourg. Ministry of Justice. "Les Statistiques En Matière De Nationalité Luxembourgeoise." Luxembourg Ministry of Justice, www.mj.gouvernement.lu/fr/dossiers/2020/nationalite-luxembourgeoise.html.

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law And Dual Nationality

The Luxembourgish Nationality Law of 2017 also introduced an intriguing aspect in Article 23, affording individuals with a parent or grandparent who possesses or possessed Luxembourgish nationality the option to acquire Luxembourgish nationality through a procedure akin to that outlined in Article 89. Over the period from 2017 to December 31st, 2022, 27 Argentines, 254 Americans, and 180 Brazilians adults exercised this right and opted for Luxembourgish nationality under Article 23.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that, at least since 2017, when some individuals initiated the application process for Luxembourgish nationality, the Ministry of Justice determined that they were, in fact, already born as Luxembourgish nationals. This determination was contingent upon their ancestor being male and their lineage comprising exclusively male individuals for each preceding generation leading up to them. Commencing from January 1, 1969, the criteria extended to females, allowing them to transmit nationality as well.

In such instances, the individual was not applying for Luxembourgish nationality per se but was instead seeking their initial certificate of Luxembourgish nationality proving that they were already a national. Notably, the Ministry of Justice does not release statistics pertaining to these proceedings. However, our estimation suggests that from 2018 to 2022, this category encompassed 154 Argentines, 5,836 Americans, and 7,612 Brazilians[1], encompassing both adults and minor children. Regrettably, the limited availability of public information makes it unclear whether this recognition of nationality was a direct consequence of the 2017 Luxembourgish Nationality Law or was in application before. However, what is clear is this is actually by far the greatest source of "new" Luxembourgish nationals in the Americas.

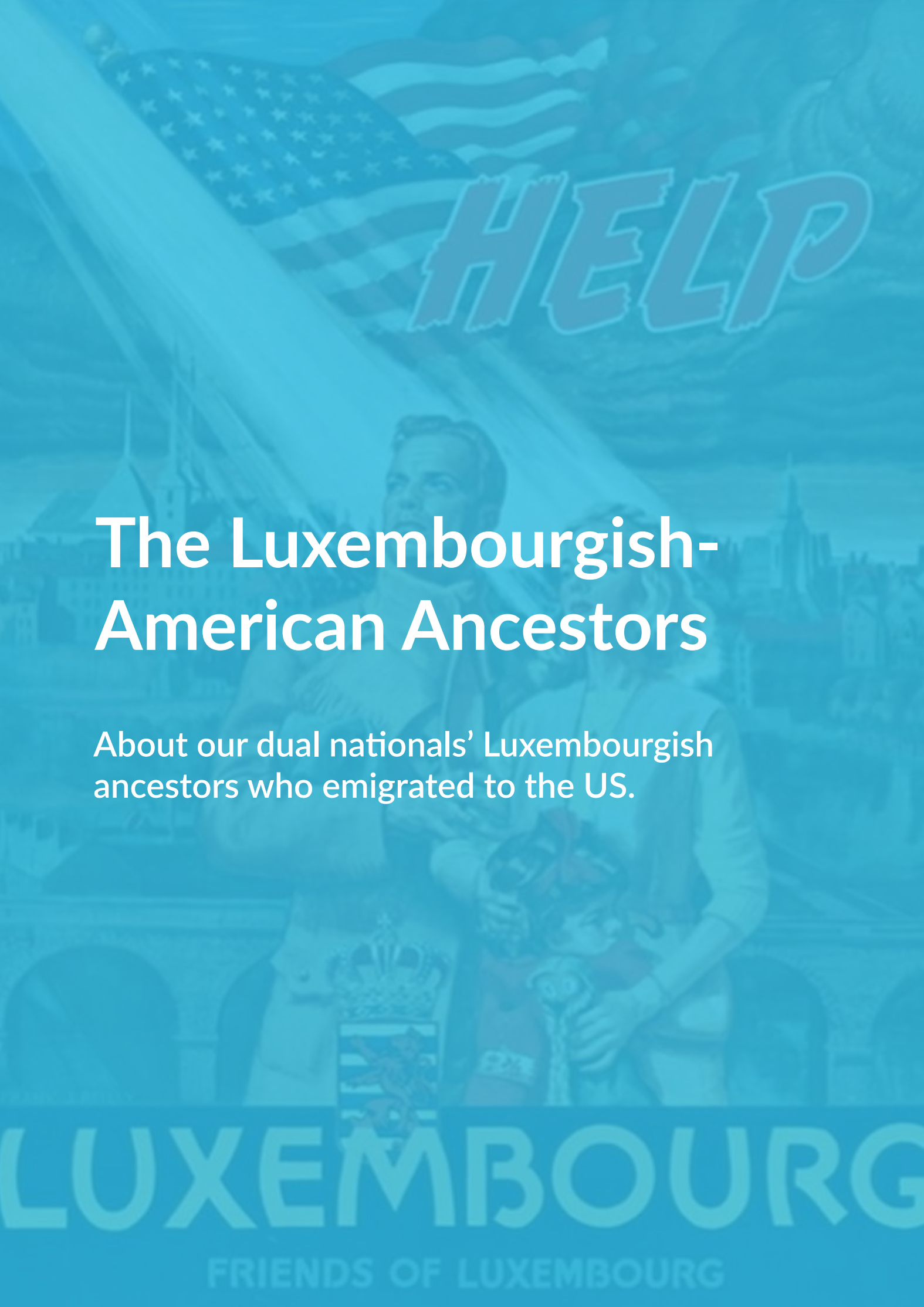
Because the average person is likely not familiar with which part of the Luxembourgish Nationality Law permitted them to obtain the dual nationality through ancestry, we did not pose any questions to this effect. Therefore, we can't distinguish from which of the three previously mentioned ways the 1,174 survey respondents obtained their nationality.

[1] We state this number because outside the STATEC data on Luxembourgers emigrating and the Ministry of Justice's Statistics on Nationality Procedures Evacuated, no other public entity in Luxembourg publishes data justifying where how else RNPP data shows a huge increase in Luxembourgish nationals living in the Americas. In fact, the Ministry of Justice's statistics only concern adult applicants and not their minor children. We use our estimate of 32% minor children to estimate the number of minor children of adults acquiring Luxembourgish nationality under Articles 89 and 23. We therefore add an additional 32% to the Ministry of Justice's statistics to account for minor children and to therefore determine the remaining difference with the available public data sources, which would equal the number of people directly receiving Luxembourgish nationality certificates. If we don't estimate the number of minor children under Articles 89/23, the real unexplained difference as of 30.6.23 is 16,382 people.

The American Luxembourgers

The section "The American Luxembourgers" provides a comprehensive look at Luxembourgish nationals in the United States, both past and present. It explores the migration patterns of Luxembourgish ancestors who moved to America, and how their descendants today reconnect with their heritage. Luxembourgish immigration began in the 1830s, driven by economic challenges like the Napoleonic Code and limited land availability. The study outlines three key waves of migration, resulting in the establishment of Luxembourgish communities across the Midwest, notably in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. These communities created a strong cultural identity that persisted despite challenges such as language suppression during World War I. Prominent Luxembourgish-Americans also emerged during this period, contributing significantly in various fields.

The study also details the growth of Luxembourgish nationality in the U.S., with a sharp increase in dual nationals since 2019, reaching over 16,000 by 2024. Today's American-Luxembourgers are highly mobile, with many moving from traditional Luxembourgish settlements in the Midwest to the West Coast, and others even considering relocating to Luxembourg or Europe. These dual nationals are diverse in their backgrounds, education, and professions, with many working in education, healthcare, and technology. The study found that pride in their Luxembourgish heritage and a desire to reconnect were the main motivators for obtaining dual nationality, with many expressing interest in learning the Luxembourgish language and potentially moving to Europe. This demographic, while American, maintains a strong connection to Luxembourg and envisions a future where this cultural link remains significant.



The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

About our dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors who emigrated to the US.

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

BACKGROUND

Our American-Luxembourgers research study is based on survey responses from 416 dual nationals. This includes LuxCitizenship clients as well as non-clients who participated in an open survey of confirmed dual nationals through ancestry.

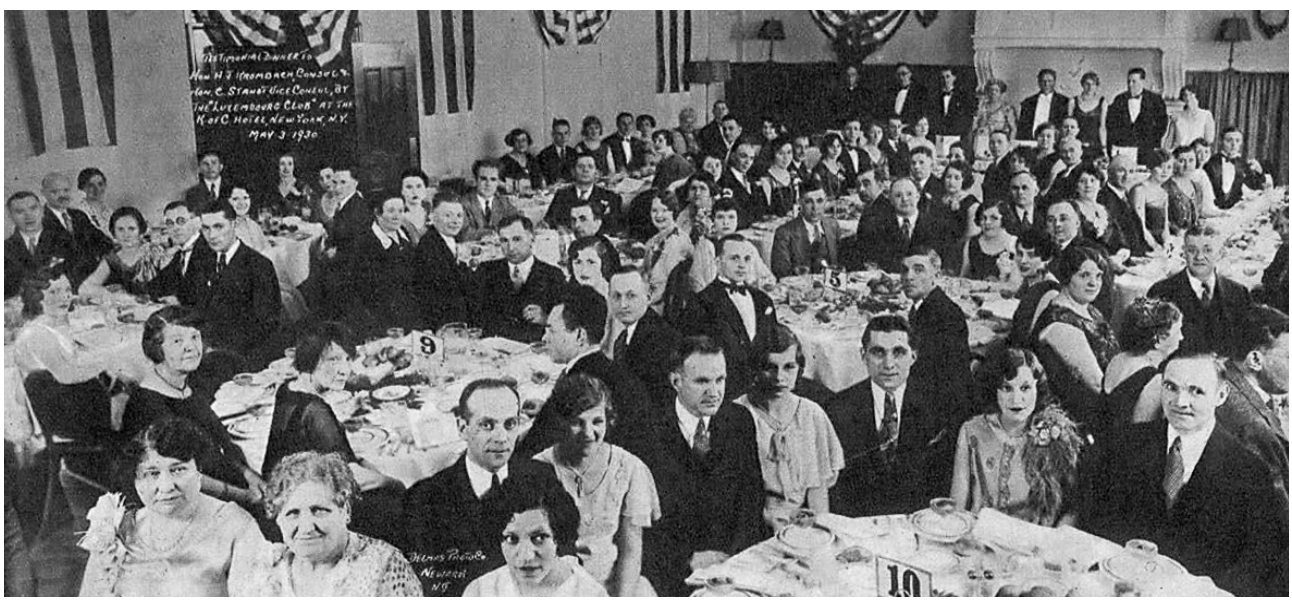
From 416 respondents, we found 225 Luxembourgish ancestors. In this first section of our study, we dive into the story of Luxembourgish immigration to the US in order to explain who our dual nationals' ancestors were and how these ancestors' stories affect the new nationals reconnecting with Luxembourg today.

WHY DID SO MANY LUXEMBOURGERS MIGRATE?

The Napoleonic Code, a leftover from France, forced landowners to divide their properties equally among all their children for inheritance purposes.[1]

By the 1840s, advances in medicine drastically reduced infant mortality. Families grew larger and larger, while their farming plots grew so small that many couldn't feed themselves, let alone make a living.

Due to suffering from poverty and famine, huge numbers of Luxembourgers would decide to leave the Grand Duchy for good.



[1] Földes, György. "The Luxembourg Trail in America's Midwest." The Luxembourg Times, 7 Feb. 2018, www.luxtimes.lu/your-luxembourg/whatshappening/the-luxembourg-trail-in-america-s-midwest/1328364.html.

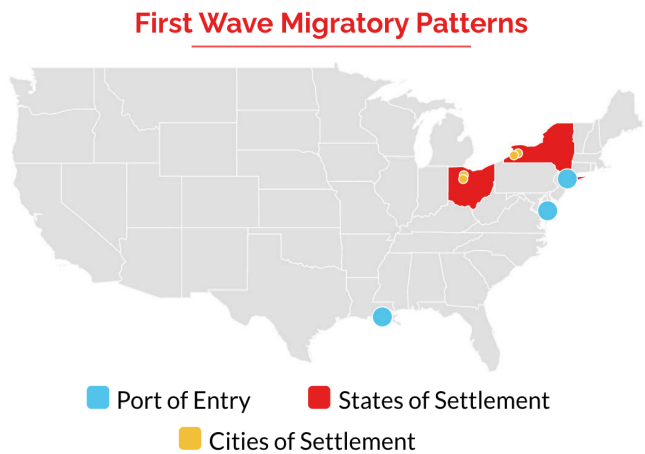
Image: "Luxembourg Brotherhood of America, New York 1930," Wikipedia, 2020.

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS: THE 1ST MIGRATORY WAVE (1830-40S)

Shortly after the first wave of Luxembourgish migrants to Brazil in 1828, different groups of Luxembourgers left for new opportunities in the United States in the 1830s.

The first wave of Luxembourgish migration was by far the smallest, but was larger than the numbers that arrived in Brazil. This first wave of Luxembourgers came to the United States from 1830 to the mid-1840s.[1]



The Luxembourgers would generally arrive through ports in Louisiana, New York, and Maryland. Many settled in Western New York state and another large group settled in Ohio.[2] As railroads developed, some of the Luxembourgers continued their migration inland.

In comparison with the other two waves, very few of the ancestors we studied belong to this early migratory wave to the United States.

PICKING UP STEAM: THE 2ND MIGRATORY WAVE (1846-60)

Up until the early 19th century, it took as long to travel from Luxembourg to Paris as from Luxembourg to the United States. Exactly at the same time as faster transport arrived, the news of free ground in the United States began to spread.

Large numbers of Luxembourgers set out for the United States and very many of them would know the name Derulle-Wigreux. According to the Library of Congress[3], most of the Luxembourgish migrants in the second wave came through this Luxembourg City-based travel agent.

Coming from land-starved Luxembourg, the promise of free ground in the Midwest drew the Luxembourgers in droves. Communities set up in Chicago[4] and Aurora, Illinois, Wisconsin's Ozaukee, Sheboygan, and LaCrosse Counties, Minnesota's Winona and Wabasha Counties, as well as in Iowa's Dubuque and Jackson Counties.

30.6% of the studied dual nationals' ancestors settled in the counties above. **13.3%** of all their ancestors settling in the counties of Aurora and Cook, Illinois alone.

[1] Luxembourgers in America." Library of Congress, www.loc.gov/rr/european/imlu/luxem.html.
[2] Walker, Drew. "Luxembourger Americans." Every Culture, www.everyculture.com/multi/Le-Pa/Luxembourger-Americans.html.
[3] Luxembourgers in America." Library of Congress, www.loc.gov/rr/european/imlu/luxem.html.
[4] Wester, Kevin. "Luxembourgish Immigration to Chicago." RTL.lu, 23 Aug. 2024, www.rtl.lu/culture/exhibitions/a/1402165.html.

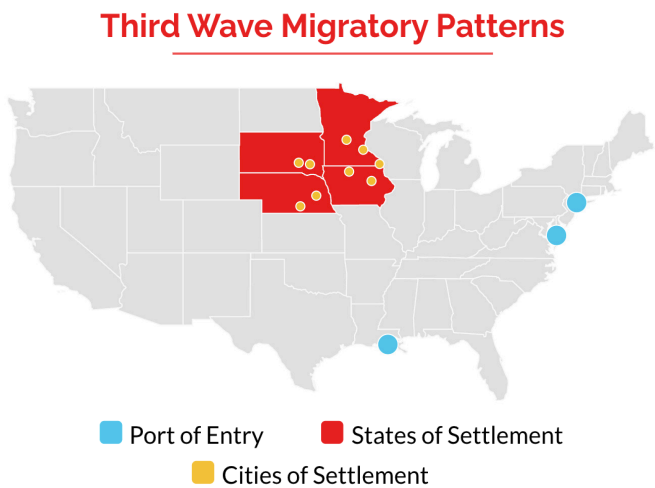
The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

LUX-EXPLOSION: THE 3RD MIGRATORY WAVE (1865-1900)

The American Civil War (1861-1865)[3] made immigration to the United States largely pause for a time. Despite this, some Luxembourgish ancestors still arrived and enlisted in the war shortly after.

mmigration exploded after the Civil War. This is also due to the Homestead Act of 1862, which made land available to the average person instead of only rich landowners.[4]

Many of these migrants also made their homes in the Midwest, notably settling in the Dakota, Stearns and Houston Counties in Minnesota as well as Kossuth and Black Hawk Counties in Iowa. Smaller communities also set up in the states of Nebraska and South Dakota.



7.6% of our dual nationals' ancestors lived in these counties, but many more lived in other locations within these states. So, it seems our respondents' ancestors tended to spread out, possibly due to more free land.

[3] History.com Editors. "American Civil War History." History.com, A&E Television Networks, 25 Aug. 2024, www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/american-civil-war-history.

[4] "The Homestead Act of 1862." National Archives, www.archives.gov/education/lessons/homestead-act.

Image: "The First Homestead in the United States," Library of Congress.

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

DIE LUXEMBURGER IN DER NEUEN WELT

Starting in 1880, Luxembourgish social life flourished in the United States. More communities were established, while the existing ones became stronger and more connected.

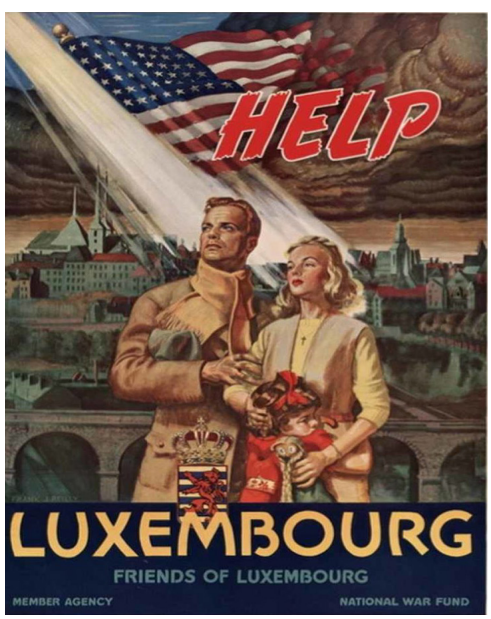
These thriving communities created a strong sense of identity for the immigrants. National Luxembourgish-American social organizations helped expand community networks and facilitate more immigration.

The Luxembourgish-Americans also started their own nationally distributed German language newspapers. It was important to them to have periodicals independent of Prussian influence.

Many of these Luxembourgish Americans went on to achieve great success in a variety of fields. Some well-known names from this time include editor Hugo Gernsback, baseball player Red Faber, senator Paul O. Husting, congressman and banker Nicholas Muller, and photographer Edward Steichen.[1]

LUXEMBOURGISH - AMERICANS IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Luxembourgers were frequently misidentified as German, Belgians, or French when they arrived first in the US. This became a problem in the early 20th century.



At the outbreak of World War I, there was immense social and political pressure to not speak German in the United States.[2] As a result, many Luxembourgers were unable to speak their mother tongue. This immense social pressure would last well after the war, leaving an eternal scar on the Luxembourgish-American communities.

Despite this, the Luxembourgish-Americans remained attached to their culture. They would also play an important part in supporting and liberating Luxembourg during World War II.

[1] Lehmann, Maura. "Luxembourgers in the United States." RTL Today, 22 Aug. 2024, today.rtl.lu/luxembourg-insider/history/a/1715133.html.

[2] Siegel, Robert, and Art Silverman. "During World War I, U.S. Government Propaganda Erased German Culture." NPR, 7 Apr. 2017, www.npr.org/2017/04/07/523044253/during-world-war-i-u-s-government-propaganda-erased-german-culture.

Image: The Society of the American Friends of Luxembourg was a national war relief fund formed in 1943. Its mission was to raise funds to support Luxembourg during and after the war.

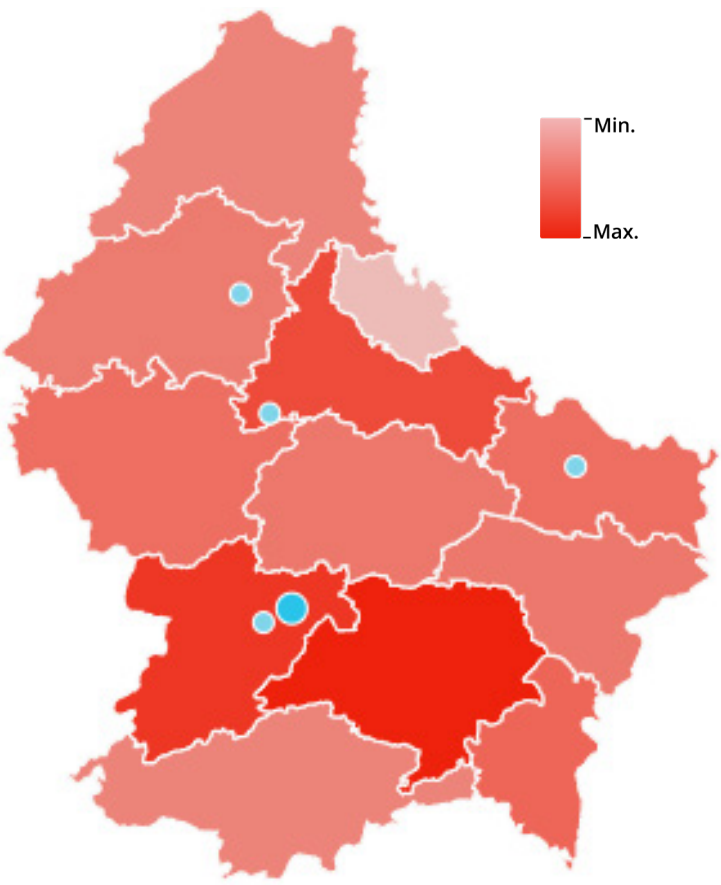
The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

ABOUT OUR DUAL NATIONALS' ANCESTORS

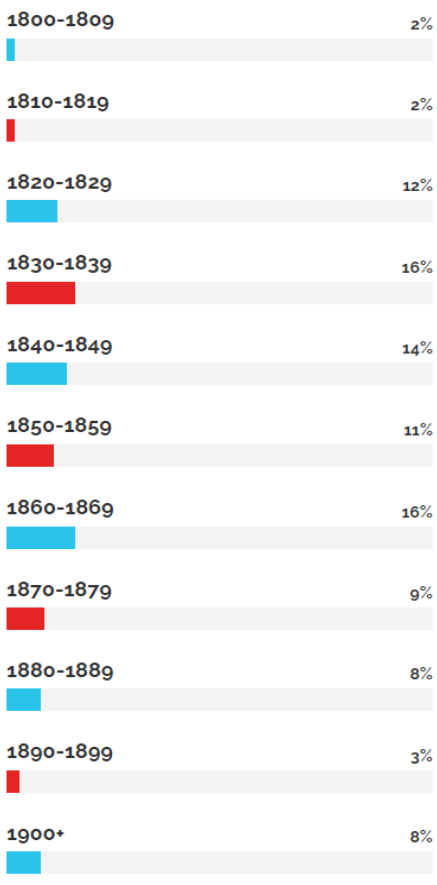
41.3% (93) of the ancestors studied were born in the cantons of Luxembourg, Capellen, and Diekirch alone. Of the three countries included in our study, the United States is the only country that featured Luxembourgers born in all twelve of Luxembourg's cantons.

The majority of these ancestors were born between 1820 and 1869, and participated in the second wave and third waves of Luxembourgish immigration to the United States.

Ancestor Canton of Birth



Ancestor Year of Birth



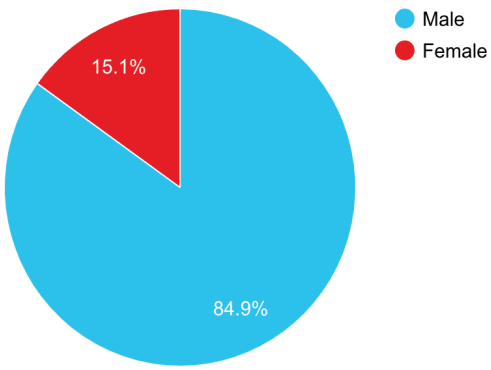
[1] Siegel, Robert, and Art Silverman. "During World War I, U.S. Government Propaganda Erased German Culture." NPR, 7 Apr. 2017, www.npr.org/2017/04/07/523044253/during-world-war-i-u-s-government-propaganda-erased-german-culture.

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

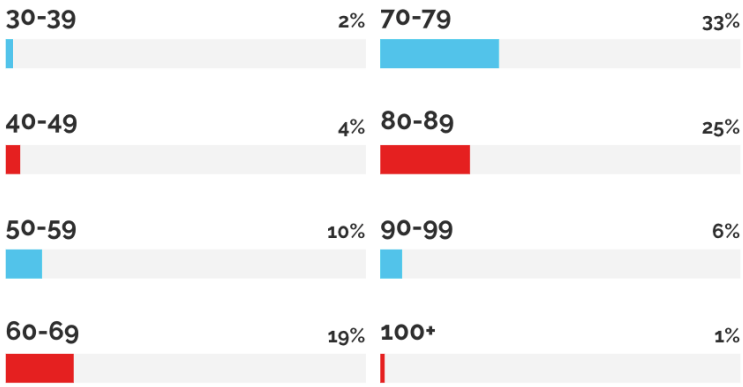
LUXEMBOURGISH - AMERICANS IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Of the ancestors included in our study, the average age at the time of their death was **74.5** years old. The national average was **61** years old in 1927 (the average year of death across all ancestors studied).

Ancestor Gender[1]



Ancestor Age at End of Life



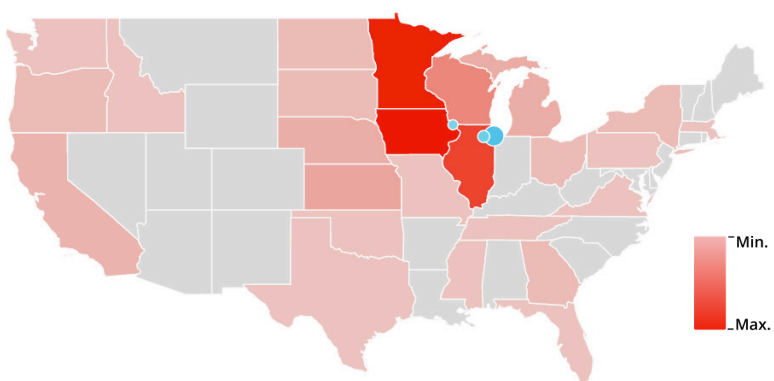
WHERE DID OUR ANCESTORS LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES?

By the 1940s, over 100,000 people self-identified as Luxembourgish-Americans on the US Census. Some of these people stayed close to the original Luxembourgish "colonies", but many left to other locations to pursue new opportunities.

Ancestor's US State of Residence

While our respondents' ancestors emigrated from all over Luxembourg, **70.6%** ended up settling in Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa alone.

The other **29.4%** of immigrants settled throughout the country, with other groupings in the states of Kansas, Michigan, New York, and California.



The highest concentration of our ancestors by city in the United States could be found in the greater Chicago and Aurora, Illinois area, which accounted for **88.2%** of the Luxembourgers who settled in that state.

[1] The proportion of men might be distorted because only descendants of male ancestors are eligible under Article 7, representing a certain portion of the applicants.

The American-Luxembourgers

A demographic overview of the Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living in the US.

The American-Luxembourgers

BACKGROUND

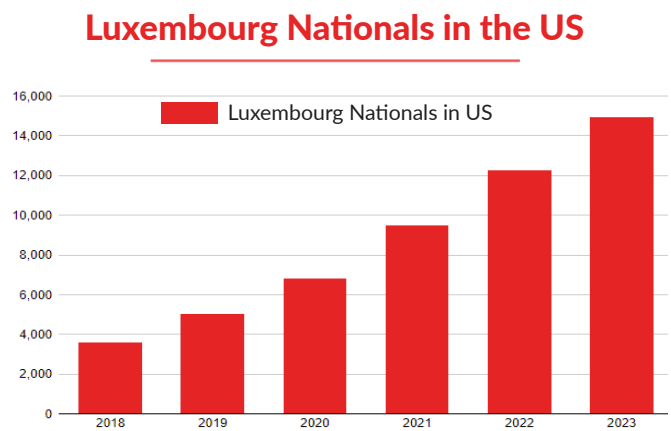
First launched in 2018, this demographic study is aimed at demystifying the new nationals of Luxembourg through ancestry. Who are these new Luxembourgers living in the United States?

Now in its 5TH annual edition, our study is based on data from Luxembourg's Ministry of Justice, National Archives, Data.Public.Lu, CTIE (the Luxembourg's Government IT Center), STATEC (Luxembourg's Statistic Agency), and our own survey of 416 dual nationals and 225 Luxembourgish ancestors.

CONTEXT

Total Luxembourgish Nationals in the US

According to the National Registry of Physical Persons (RNPP), since 30 June 2019, the number of Luxembourgish nationals living in the United States has increased from 4,177 to 16,111. This increase of 11,934 nationals is equivalent to 186% growth over five years.



As of June 2024, the United States is the fifth foreign country in the world with the most Luxembourgish Nationals. It comes in just behind Germany and before Switzerland.

And these numbers are guaranteed to grow. A few hundred Americans are still eligible to travel to Luxembourg and claim nationality under Article 89 before December 2025. Additionally, other paths to obtain Luxembourgish nationality remain open.

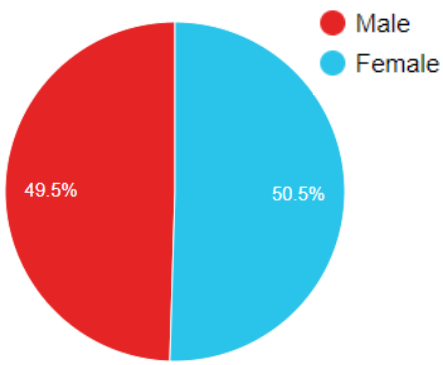
Luxembourg has a population of 676,685. There are already 16,111 Luxembourgish nationals living in the United States, which is equivalent to 2.4% of Luxembourg's total population.

The American-Luxembourgers

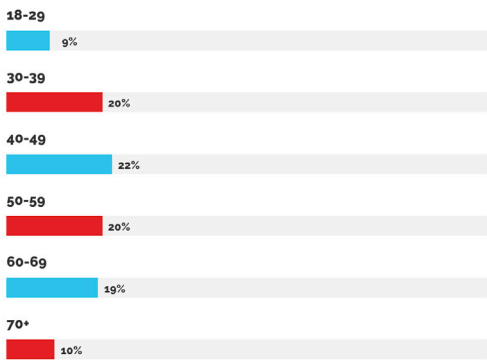
FACE OF A NEW GENERATION

Today, the 416 American-Luxembourgers who cover a wide range of demographics and walks of life responded to our survey. The biggest grouping of our dual nationals is in the 18-39 age range and 4-5 generations removed from their ancestor.

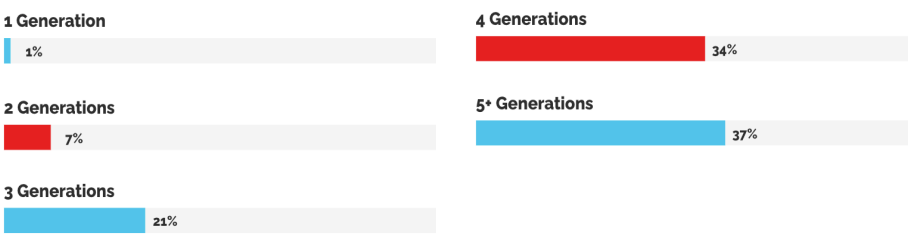
Respondent Gender



Respondent Age



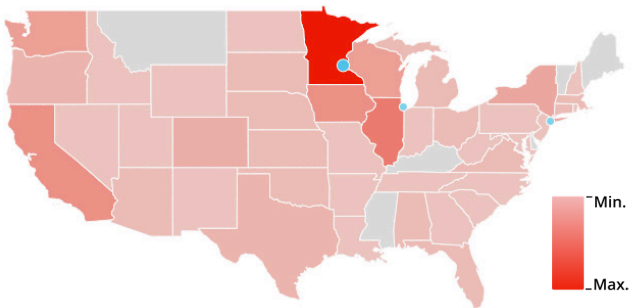
Generations from Ancestor



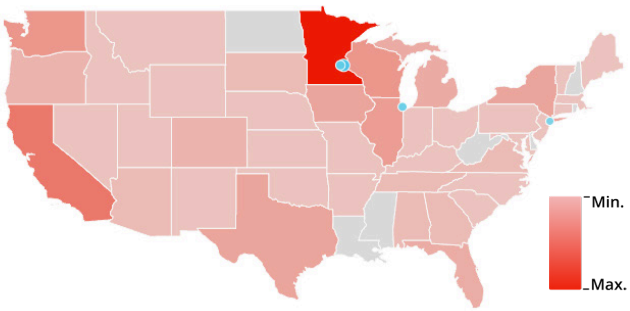
AMERICAN - LUXEMBOURGERS: WHERE ARE THEY FROM?

Similar to their Luxembourgish ancestors, many of our study's respondents were born and live in Midwestern states such as Minnesota, Illinois, and Wisconsin. 42.9% of all our respondents live in these three states alone.

Where Applicants Were Born



Where Applicants Live Today

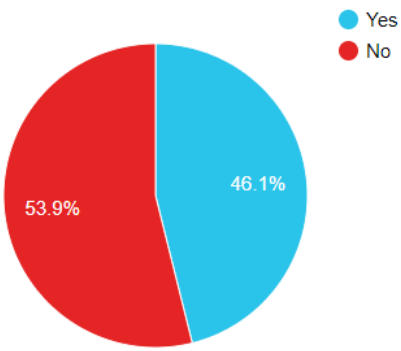


The American-Luxembourgers

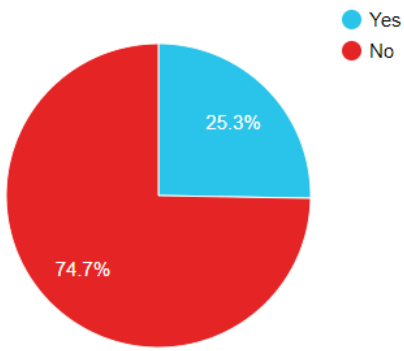
MOBILITY – HOW "CLOSE TO HOME" ARE THE AMERICAN-LUXEMBOURGERS?

74.7% of respondents no longer live in the state where their Luxembourgish ancestor resided. Of these same respondents, 47.6% of them also do not live in the state where they were born. Overall, this is a very mobile population.

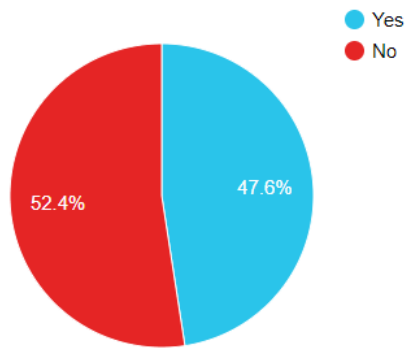
Born in State Where Ancestor Lived



Live in Same State as Ancestor



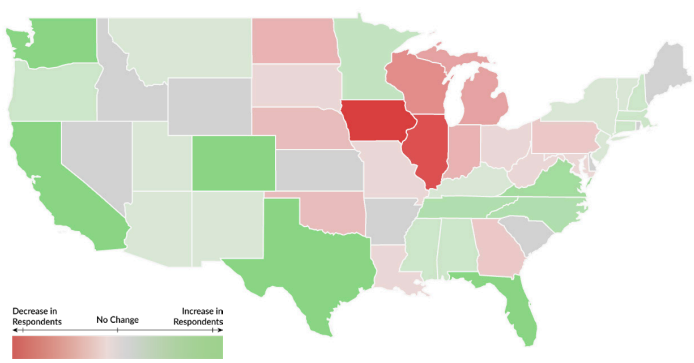
Born + Live in the Same State



WHERE HAVE THEY MOVED?

Despite similar maps on the previous page, many respondents have moved states in their lifetimes. The most common trend we see is from the Midwest to the West Coast. Furthermore, 32.2% of the dual nationals who still live in the same state as their Luxembourgish ancestor live in Minnesota. What's keeping these Luxembourgers in Minnesota? More information is available on our Minnesota Dual Nationals study.

Where Have Respondents Moved Since Birth?



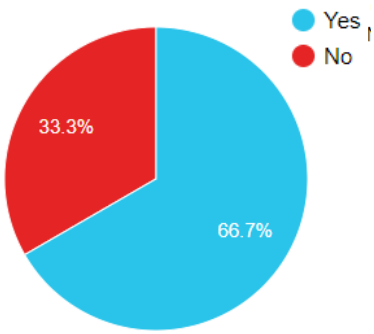
While over 38% of our American-Luxembourger Survey respondents expressed having lived outside the US at some point in their lives, only 4.1% currently live in a foreign country. They are not reflected in our resident maps.

The American-Luxembourgers

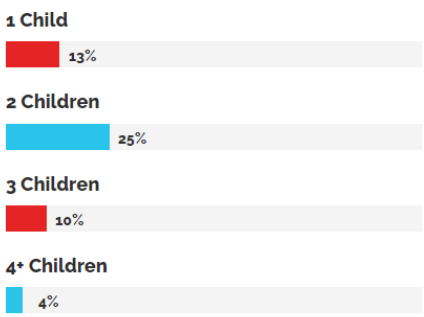
ABOUT THE DUAL NATIONAL FAMILIES

66.7% of our respondents are married. More than half, 55% of respondents have children. The largest group among them has two children, with the most common age brackets being 10-17.

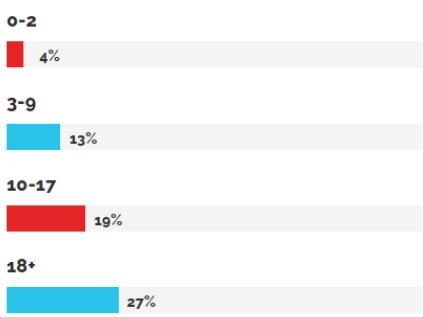
Married.



of Children



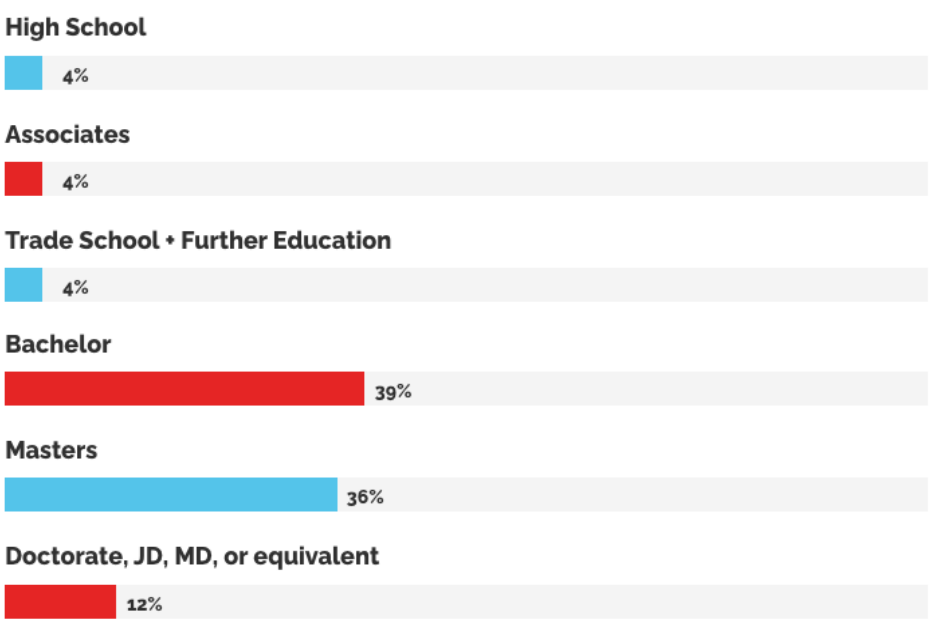
Children Age Ranges



EDUCATION LEVEL

The minimum education level of the respondents in this study was a high school degree, and 95.6% of respondents report that they have pursued higher education beyond high school.

Education Level Achieved

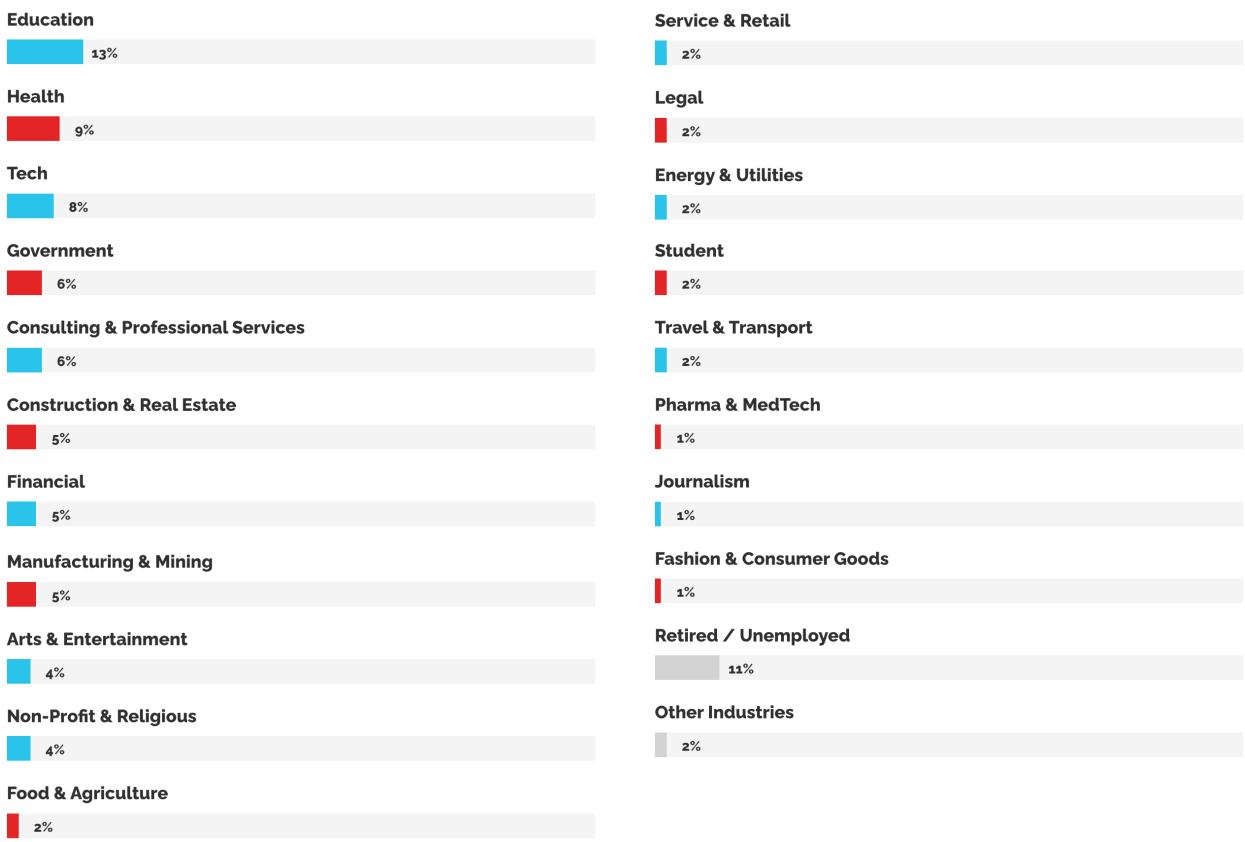


The American-Luxembourgers

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Of the three countries, the American-Luxembourgers were the most likely to work in Education, Health, and Tech related fields.

Most Recent Industry of Employment



APPLICANT JOB TITLES

The American Luxembourger participants in our study have many different jobs and titles, but some of the most common were **professor**, **operations manager**, **president**, and **social worker**.

The American-Luxembourgers Survey

A survey of how the Luxembourgish dual nationals in the US see their future with Luxembourg.

The American-Luxembourgers Survey

BACKGROUND

The following is the second edition of the only systematic survey of the American-Luxembourger dual nationals. In it, respondents provided answers to questions on their future in Luxembourg and motivations for applying for dual nationality. The responses come from roughly 81% LuxCitizenship clients and 19% other American-Luxembourgers.

KEY FINDINGS

Having analyzed the results of our survey conducted in July 2023, we have highlighted some general findings.

1. **74.5%** (310) of the respondents indicated wanting to learn Luxembourgish.

2. The population is evenly split 50/50 between respondents wanting to use their new nationality to move to Europe and those that do not plan to do so.

3. **18%** (75) of the respondents expressed an interest in specifically moving to Luxembourg one day.

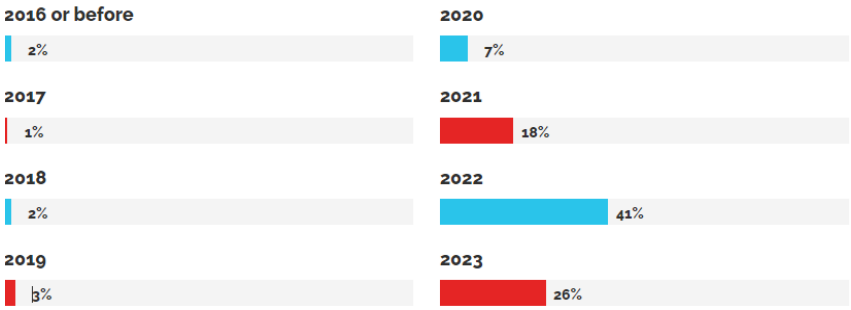
4. **6.5%** (27) of the respondents are interested in moving to Luxembourg in the next five years and 22.2% (6) of that subset of respondents are multilingual.

NATIONALITY STATUS

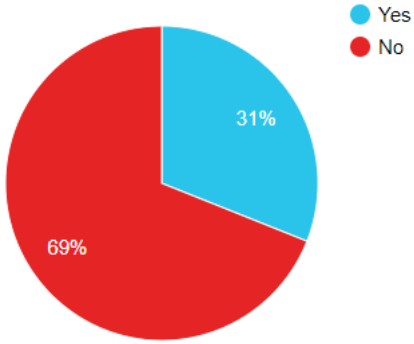
When Did They Apply?

100% of our survey respondents have already legally obtained their Luxembourgish dual nationality. Furthermore, **31%** indicated that they have obtained a Luxembourgish passport, which is significantly lower than the Brazilian respondents.

Year Nationality Was Obtained



Have Luxembourgish Passport



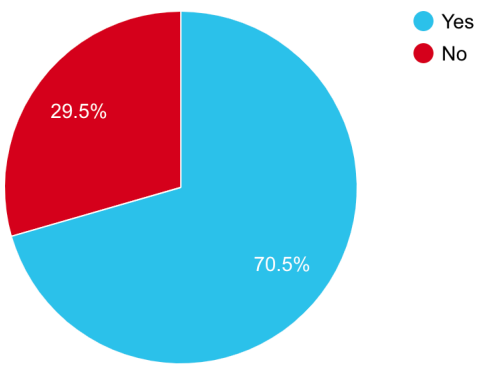
The American-Luxembourgers Survey

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

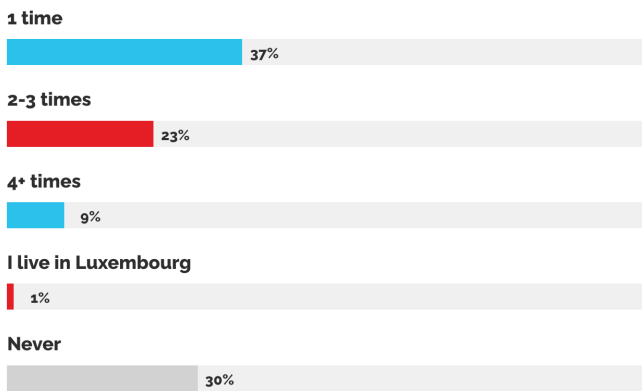
Who's Been to the Grand Duchy?

While not all of our respondents had to travel to Luxembourg to complete their nationality applications, **70.5%** reported that they have already visited Luxembourg. **32.9%** of respondents reported that they have visited the Grand Duchy two or more times.

Traveled to Luxembourg



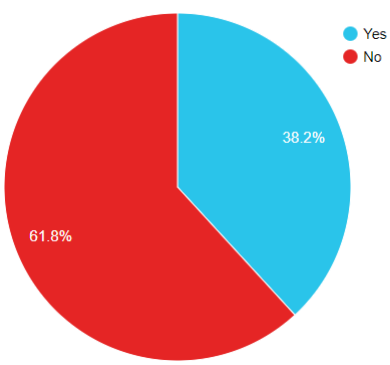
How many times?



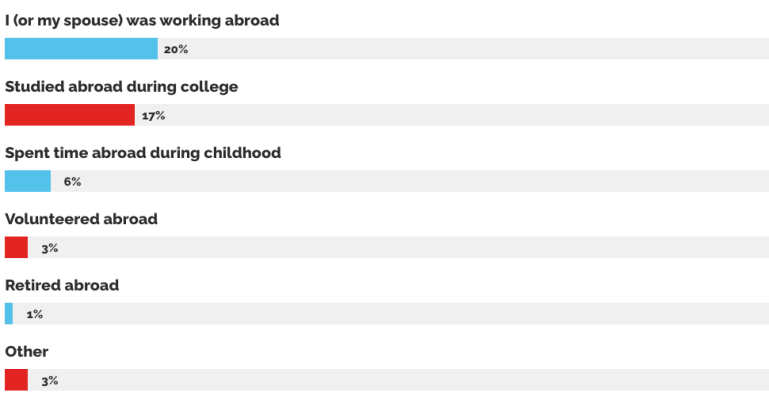
TIME SPENT OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES

Just over **38%** of the survey respondents indicate that they have lived outside of the US. **20%** have worked abroad in some capacity. These are both very high figures in comparison with the national average in the US.

Have You Lived Abroad?



Why?



**Respondents could make multiple choices*

The American-Luxembourgers Survey

MULTILINGUALISM

The US is famously monolingual. Most people in Luxembourg speak 4-5 languages. Where do the dual nationals land?

Speak a Foreign Language?

17.1% of respondents indicate that they speak a foreign language "fluently". The standard used for this question in the survey was defined as “Do you have the ability to fluidly use a language for the responsibilities of your work?”

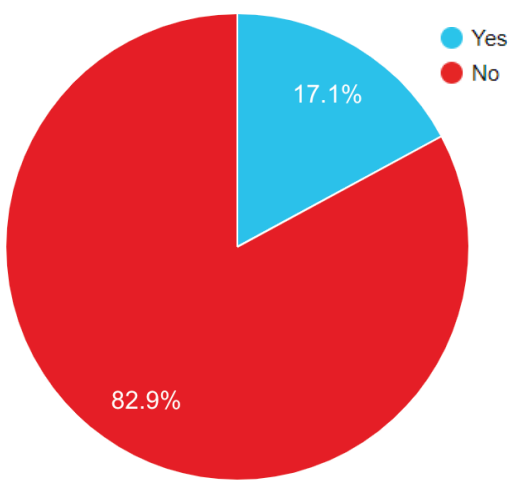
Schwätzt Dir Lëtzebuergesch?

The respondents reflect the national US average of around 20% indicating speaking a foreign language. Despite this, the number of dual nationals interested in learning Luxembourgish is sizeable.

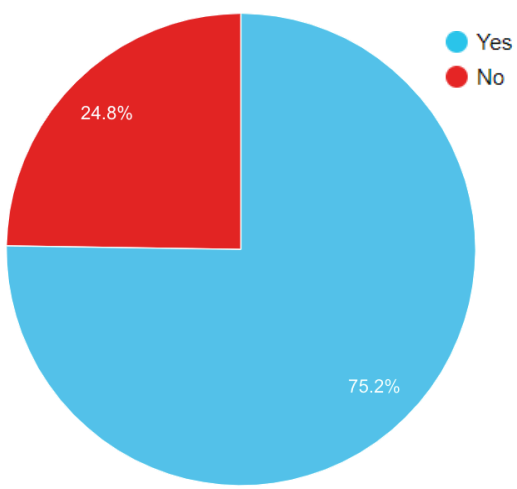
Languages Spoken

**Respondents could make multiple choices*

Do You Speak a Foreign Language?



Interested in Learning Luxembourgish?



The American-Luxembourgers Survey

INTEREST IN RELOCATING

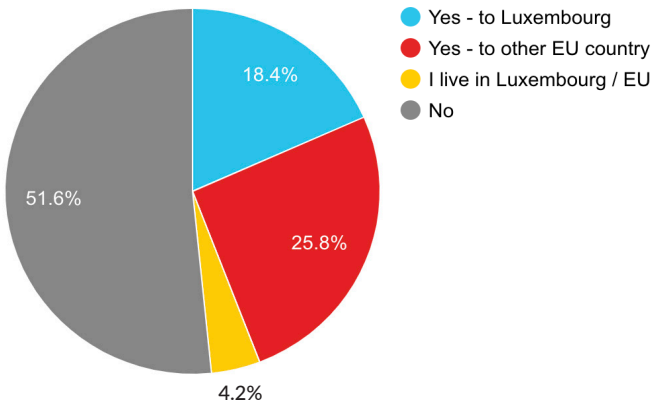
Do these new dual nationals plan to put their Luxembourgish passport to use? How do they see their future in Europe?

From the US to the EU - Moving to Luxembourg

As many as **18%** of the American respondents are considering a move to Luxembourg one day. Additionally, 25% would consider moving to another EU country.

Of the respondents that expressed an interest in moving to the EU in the next five years, **66%** indicated that they would make the move with their spouse, **16.5%** with their children, and **17.5%** would go alone.

Want to Move to the EU?



WHERE ARE THEY HEADED?

1.7% of American respondents, about 7 people, indicated that they are considering a move to Luxembourg in the next two years. As far as other potential destinations respondents want to move to, France, Portugal, and Germany are the most popular.

Move to Luxembourg - When

What Other EU Country

** These percentages are based off of all American respondents (not only those interested in moving the EU).*

The American-Luxembourgers Survey

APPLICATION MOTIVATIONS

Dual Nationality Motivations

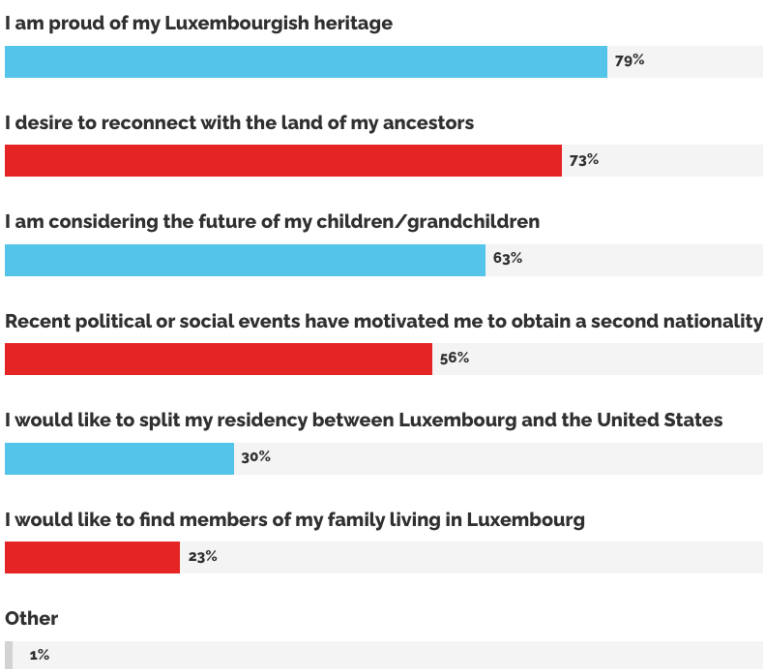
Our respondents overwhelmingly listed that their pride in their Luxembourgish heritage and the desire to reconnect with the land of their ancestors were primary motivators in their decision to apply for Luxembourgish nationality.

Now that they have obtained Luxembourgish nationality, the same respondents have varying plans for their future with Europe, with the largest percentage hoping to retire there.

*Respondents could chose multiple options and the percentage is based on the number of all respondents that answered each question.

Potential Interests

Application Motivators



Analyzing the Motivations Behind Luxembourgish Dual Nationality Applications: Insights from 665 American Respondents

Why would an American want to apply for Luxembourgish nationality? We analyze their free form responses.

Analyzing the Motivations Behind Luxembourg Dual Nationality Applications: Insights from 665 American Respondents

Between 1 January 2024, and 25 August 2024, 665 qualified American individuals answered our Luxembourg Dual Nationality eligibility test questionaire . Each respondent answered the question: “I want to be a citizen of Luxembourg because…” in their own words, freeform. These responses, totaling 22,999 words or 47 pages, offer a unique insight into the varied motivations and aspirations of individuals seeking dual nationality in Luxembourg.

To better understand the underlying reasons for these applications, we used the Artificial Intelligence Large Language Model, ChatGPT 4o, to analyze and categorize the responses. The result is the identification of eight distinct archetype profiles, each reflecting a different set of motivations. The AI was used in the interests of time efficiency. Here, we look at these archetypes and provide a rough estimate of their prevalence among the respondents.

1. THE ANCESTRY ENTHUSIAST & HERITAGE PRESERVER (45-55%)

This archetype represents a significant portion of respondents who share a deep connection to their Luxembourgish heritage. These respondents are passionate about family history and genealogy and are dedicated passing on their cultural roots. For them, Luxembourgish dual nationality is viewed as a meaningful way to honor their ancestors, maintain a strong sense of identity, and celebrate and preserve their Luxembourgish legacy.

Typical response: *“I have always been deeply interested in my family history, and Luxembourg's dual nationality allows me and my children to explore and honor our heritage. As a defender of the European Union, I am committed to preserving and passing my European heritage on to my children."*

2. THE EUROPEAN UNION OPPORTUNIST (20-25%)

A significant portion of respondents are motivated by the practical benefits of European Union nationality. These "European Union Opportunists" are interested in the freedom to live, work, and travel across Europe. Many have aspirations to relocate to Luxembourg or other EU countries, driven by the opportunities that an EU passport can provide.

Typical response: *“I am seeking nationality in the hope that I can move to Luxembourg to work and start a life there. I would like to be a member of the EU and take advantage of the opportunities it provides.”*

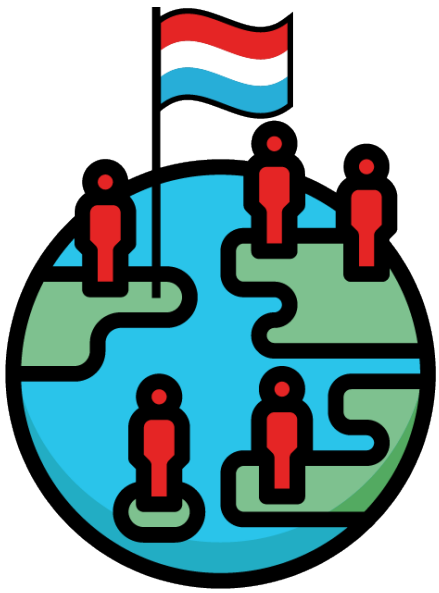
Analyzing the Motivations Behind Luxembourg Dual Nationality Applications: Insights from 665 American Respondents

3. THE FUTURE PLANNER (10-15%)

Respondents in this archetype are focused on securing a better future for themselves and their families in terms of economic, social and other factors. They see Luxembourgish dual nationality as a pathway to improved education, healthcare, and overall quality of life, particularly for their children. This group is often motivated by the desire to provide greater opportunities for the next generation.

Typical response: *"I am looking for dual nationality because of the significantly better healthcare, education, and overall wellness in Luxembourg. I want to provide my children with the best opportunities."*

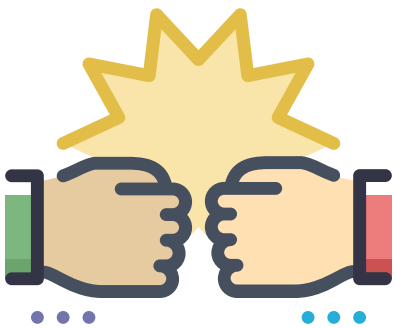
4. THE GLOBAL CITIZEN (5-10%)



The "Global Citizen" archetype is defined by a desire to expand their horizons and become more integrated into the international community. These respondents often have experience living in different countries and view Luxembourgish nationality as a means to enhance their global identity and engage with the world on a broader scale.

Typical response: *"I want to be a citizen of Luxembourg because I am interested in becoming a more global citizen and connecting to the land of my ancestors. I have lived in Europe before and would like to do so again."*

5. THE POLITICAL REFUGEE & SAFETY SEEKER (10-20%)



This archetype includes respondents motivated by concerns about political instability and personal safety in their current country, particularly the United States. Whether identifying as members of marginalized groups or simply seeking a better quality of life, they see Luxembourgish nationality as an opportunity to settle down in a safer environment for their families.

Typical response: *"I want to be a citizen of Luxembourg because I fear for my future in America. My children identify as LGBTQIA, and I want a stable, safe environment for them to grow up in. I'm increasingly uneasy about the state of the USA and seek to live in a safer nation where I can settle down comfortably."*

6. THE RETIREE SEEKER (10-15%)

This group includes individuals nearing retirement who are looking to spend their golden years in Luxembourg or the EU. Drawn by the lifestyle, healthcare, and peaceful environment that Luxembourg offers, these "Retiree Seekers" see dual nationality as a means to enhance their quality of life in retirement.

Typical response: *"I am retired and am looking into long-term travel or permanent retirement in Luxembourg or the EU. The quality of life there is unmatched, and I want to spend my later years in a safe, peaceful country."*

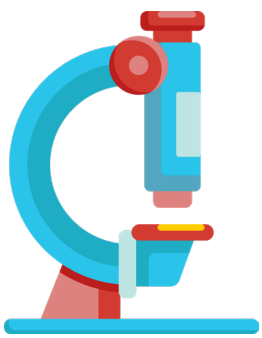
7. THE CAREER AND EDUCATION ASPIRANT (10-15%)

Respondents in this archetype are interested in leveraging Luxembourgish nationality for career and educational opportunities in Europe. They often have plans to study, work, or establish a business in Luxembourg or the EU, seeing dual nationality as a strategic move to advance their personal and professional goals.

Typical response: *"I want to be a citizen of Luxembourg because it would allow me to study and work in the EU. I'm interested in pursuing a graduate degree in Europe and potentially relocating there if I enjoy it."*

8. THE CULTURAL EXPLORER (10-15%)

The "Cultural Explorer" archetype is characterized by a passion for exploring their Luxembourgish roots and learning more about the culture, language, and history. These respondents are driven by a desire to experience life in Luxembourg firsthand, often with the intention of reconnecting with their ancestral homeland.



Typical response: *"I want to be a citizen of Luxembourg to learn about and experience the culture of where my great-great-grandfather came from. I studied German in high school and college, and I would love to re-learn the language with an emphasis on Luxembourgish."*

Analyzing the Motivations Behind Luxembourg Dual Nationality Applications: Insights from 665 American Respondents

CONCLUSION

The responses from these 665 applicants reveal a rich tapestry of motivations, reflecting both personal and practical considerations. Whether driven by a deep connection to their Luxembourgish heritage, the allure of European Union opportunities, or the quest for safety and stability, these individuals see dual nationality as a gateway to a better life.

Two important demographics cannot be fully captured by the responses to our Luxembourgish Dual Nationality Eligibility Test. First, is the individual's minor children, who will have an entirely different relationship growing up with the concept of being a dual national. Second, is the "mildly interested relative." Because dual nationality through ancestry is inherently a family affair, many families apply together. Sometimes a relative who may have no real interest in the topic just completes a nationality application because the rest of their relatives are doing it.

It is further important to highlight that the above reflected archetypes reflect the views of an individual at the very start of the application process. Their opinions, feelings and motivations might change even by the time they complete their Luxembourgish nationality application. However, surely, for many, their feelings and interactions will have changed substantially by a few years after having obtained their Luxembourgish nationality. It will be important with time to assess these changes through other freeform questionnaires.

Minnesota's Luxembourgish Dual Nationals

We explore the unique story of *why* Minnesota is home to so many Luxembourgish dual nationals.

Minnesota's Luxembourg Dual Nationals

INTRODUCTION

Let's face it, in Luxembourg, when people think about Luxembourgers in the United States, they tend to think about Wisconsin. However, over the years, we've noted time and time again that a huge number of the Luxembourgish Dual Nationals, their ancestors and the generations in between, lived at one time or another in Minnesota, and its major urban center Minneapolis/Saint Paul. In this special section of our study, we use our client data instead of our survey data to explore Minnesota's unique connection to Luxembourg.

As of 12 August 2024, LuxCitizenship had **2,079** American clients, including those who have already fully obtained dual citizenship and those still in the application process.

BACKGROUND

We know that as of 30 June 2024, 16,111 Luxembourgish nationals were living in the US.[1] Combining various government data sources, our best estimate is that **14,347** of these individuals are dual nationals through ancestry.

Our 2,079 American clients account for about **12.5%** of this population, which we believe gives us a solid basis for drawing insights into overall trends.

17.1% of all our American clients currently live in Minnesota and an impressive **14.2%** of all our clients live in the Twin Cities Metro Region alone.

Based on these figures, we estimate that approximately **2,453** Luxembourgish dual nationals live in Minnesota and **2,040** of them live in the Minneapolis/St Paul area. This would make the Twin Cities the metro area in the US with the most Luxembourgish Dual Nationals.

This report aims to draw meaningful comparisons between our sample group and the larger population.

[1] "Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger."

Minnesota's Luxembourg Dual Nationals

WHAT'S A "MINNESOTA"?

Minnesota is located to the North of the US Midwest. Most of the state's land was acquired from France in the Louisiana Purchase. Minnesota became the 32nd American state in 1858.[1] Minnesota is known as the Land of 10,000 lakes. But in reality, the number is 11,842.

Minnesota is one of the US states with the highest income and education levels. It is also on the border with Canada, making it an important gateway for trade.

Gross Domestic Product	GDP Per Capita	Largest City	Industries
$383,620 Billion (2023)[2] (Equiv. to Morocco[3])	$66,071 (2022)[4] (16th in the US)	Minneapolis	- Services & Technology - Manufacturing - Farming & Forestry

THE TWIN CITIES: MINNESOTA'S MAJOR METRO AREA

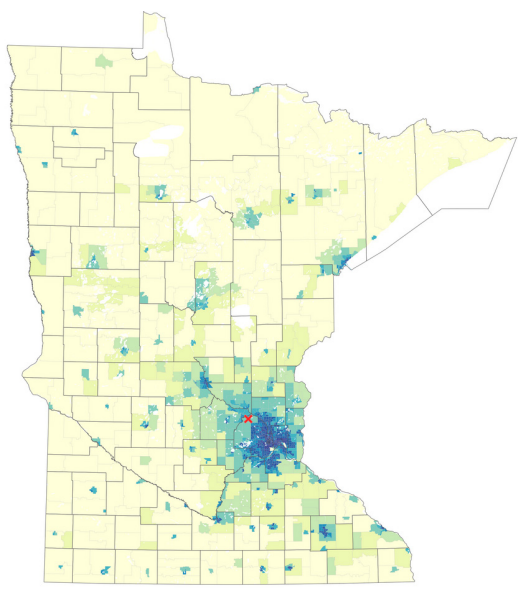
Minneapolis (Hennepin County) is Minnesota's biggest city. Just across the river lies its capital city, Saint Paul (Ramsey County). The Twin Cities are an economic powerhouse, accounting for 72.8% of Minnesota's GDP.

Twin Cities Metro Area Population: 3.69 Million[5]
Minneapolis City: 420,324 | Saint Paul City: 304,547

Gross Domestic Product: $242.54 Billion (2021)[6]

Industries: – High Tech – Medical Products – Food Processing – Retail – Financial Services

Minnesota - People per Square Mile



[1] "History of Minnesota." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, www.history.com/topics/us-states/minnesota.
[2] Statista Research Department. "Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the United States in 2022, by State." *Statista*, www.statista.com/statistics/248023/us-gross-domestic-product-gdp-by-state/.
[3] World Bank. "GDP, PPP (Current International $)." *World Bank Data*, data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.PP.CD?most_recent_value_desc=true.
[4] Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. "Minnesota Gross Domestic Product (GDP)." *Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development*, mn.gov/deed/data/economic-analysis/compare/compare-minnesota/economy/gdp.jsp.
[5] Statista Research Department. "Population of the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington Metro Area in the United States from 2010 to 2021." *Statista*, www.statista.com/statistics/815273/minneapolis-metro-area-population/.
[6] Statista Research Department. "Gross Domestic Product of the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metro Area from 2001 to 2021." *Statista*, www.statista.com/statistics/183870/gdp-of-the-minneapolis-saint-paul-metro-area/.
Image: "*Population Density of Minnesota, 2020*," Wikimedia Commons, 2021.

Minnesota's Luxembourg Dual Nationals

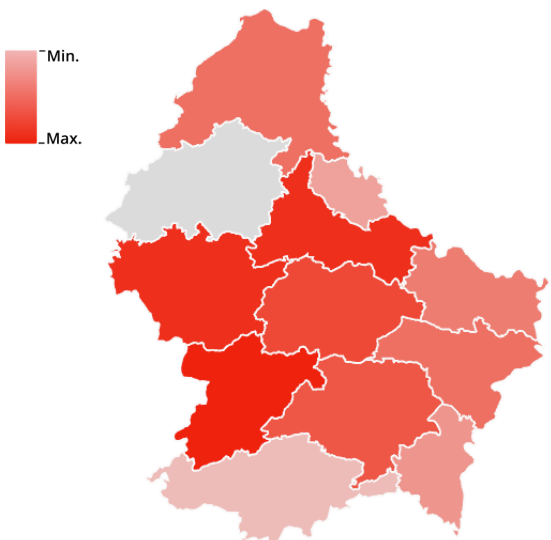
WHY SO MANY LUXEMBOURGERS?

Our Story Starts in Luxembourg

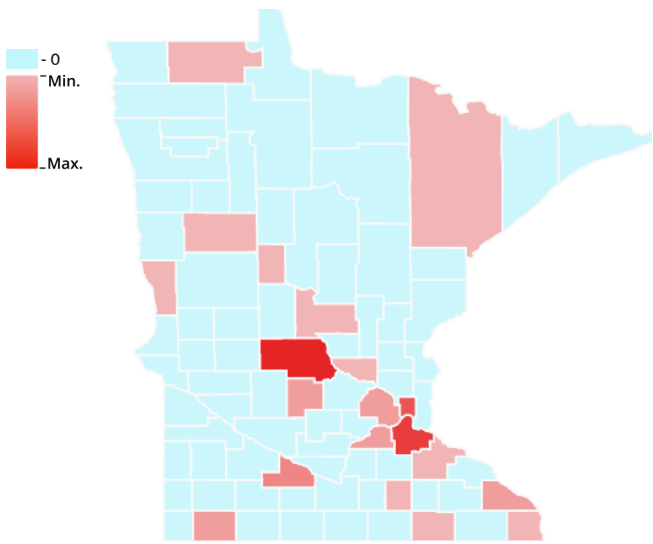
This study is based on 356 of our clients living in Minnesota today. These 356 people descend from 86 Luxembourgish ancestors.

Those 86 Luxembourgish ancestors were born across 52 communes in Luxembourg, comprising 11 of Luxembourg's 12 cantons. The biggest concentration came from Capellen (15.5%) and the least from Esch-sur-Alzette (1.2%).

Ancestor's Location of Birth



Ancestors' Residence by County



ELO SINN ECH DOHEEM!

What drew these Luxembourgers to Minnesota back in the day? Special land deals allowed Luxembourgish immigrants, particularly farmers, to afford their own land.Over time, their farms became profitable and grew, leading to the development of towns.

We studied where dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors resided in Minnesota at the end of their lives. The largest concentrations were found in Stearns, Dakota, and Ramsey counties. Notably, Dakota and Ramsey are two of the eleven counties that make up the Twin Cities metro area, but they were largely farmland at the time.

Despite settling in what was considered "frontier land," most Luxembourgish immigrants to Minnesota lived into old age, with 65% of them reaching 70 years or older.

Minnesota's Luxembourg Dual Nationals

ABOUT THE DUAL NATIONALS TODAY

Enchantéiert, Ech Si Minnesotaner

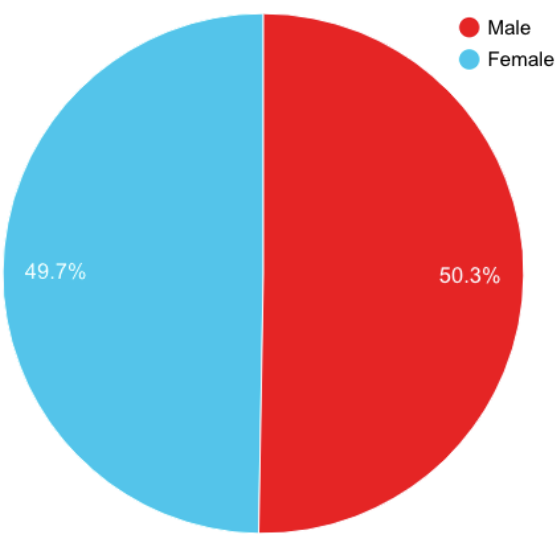
While there are clear migration patterns from over time rural zones of Minnesota to major metropolitan areas, such as the Twin Cities, **9.3%** of participants reside in the same Minnesota county as their original Luxembourgish ancestor.

Most of the applicants born in Minnesota are **4-5 generations** removed from their ancestor. As a general pattern, we see that most of the ancestors passed away in the early 20th century.

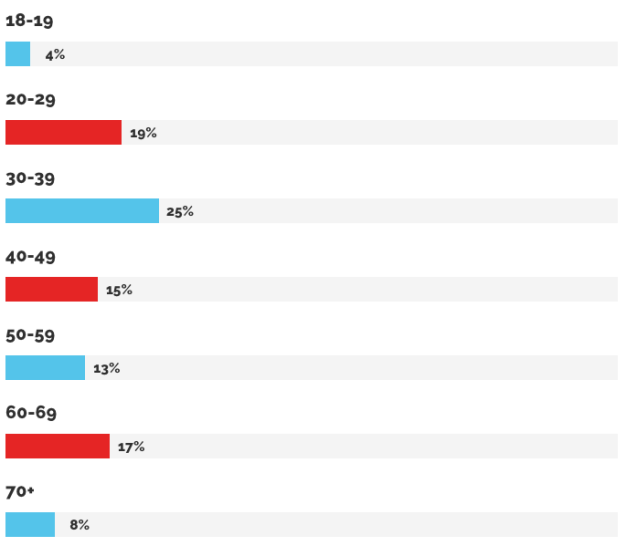
BASIC FIGURES

Based on our Minnesota clients, we estimate that about 1,825 (74.4%) of Luxembourgish Dual Nationals in the state are adults, while about 628 (25.6%) are minors. Of the adult applicants, today's biggest age group is those in their 20s-30s, which makes up 44% of all our Minnesota-based clients.

Gender



Current Age (Adults)

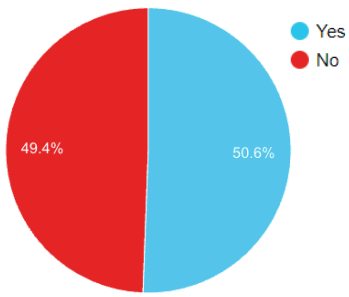


Minnesota's Luxembourg Dual Nationals

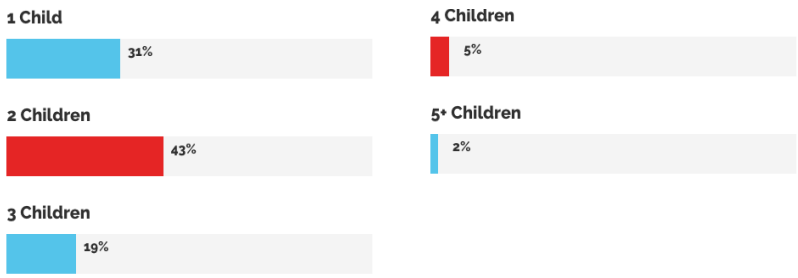
FAMILY STATUS

50.6% of our adult clients in Minnesota are married. Assuming there are 1,825 adult dual nationals in Minnesota, that would account for **923 spouses** who could one day become dual nationals. In addition, some dual nationals have adult children who have yet to apply for Luxembourgish nationality.

Married?



Respondents with Children



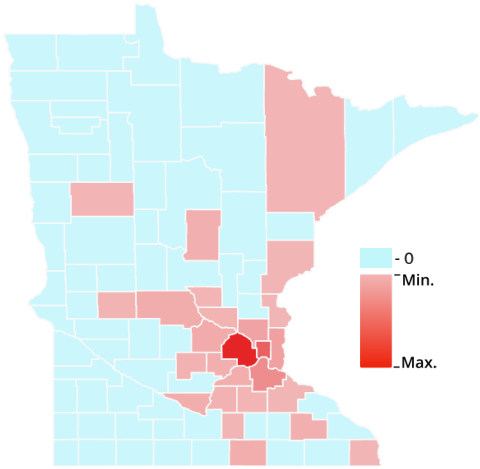
WHERE ARE THEY TODAY?

Their Luxembourgish ancestors came to farm. Their grandparents and parents largely found their work in or around the Twin Cities.

Well, their children decided it was a good idea to stay. Many of them appear to like the big city now, too. Today, we estimate that **83.1%** of the Minnesotan dual nationals live in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Twin Cities Metropolitan Area (an estimated 2,040 people).

Other metro areas, including Rochester, Duluth, and Saint Cloud, host smaller populations totaling together roughly **5.4%** or an estimated 131 individuals. Meanwhile, **11.5%**, around 283 individuals, reside in rural areas.

Dual Nationals Residence by County



As of June 30th, 2024, we estimate that 2,040 dual nationals live in the Twin Cities Metro Area alone.

In fact, this would mean that more Luxembourgish nationals live in the Twin Cities Metro Area than in Lintgen, the 49th largest commune in Luxembourg (2,014 Luxembourgish nationals for a population of 3,480).[1]

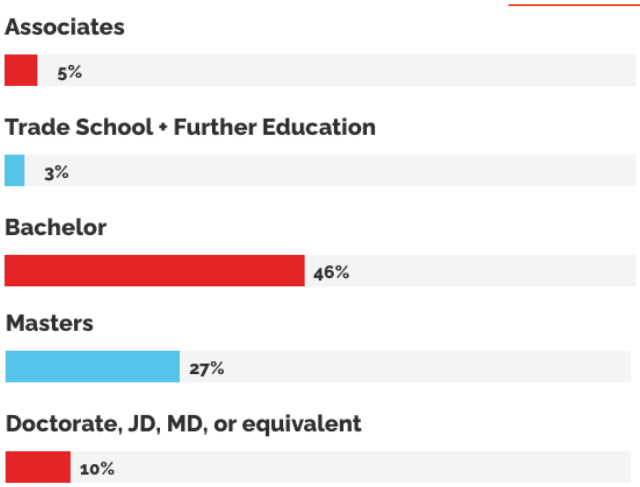
[1] "Nombre de Ressortissants par Nationalité et par Commune - Number of Citizens per Nationality and Municipality."

Minnesota's Luxembourg Dual Nationals

EDUCATION

Minnesota is the state with the highest portion of people holding at least a high school diploma. It has 2 public university systems, spanning 37 institutions, and 20 private institutions.[1]

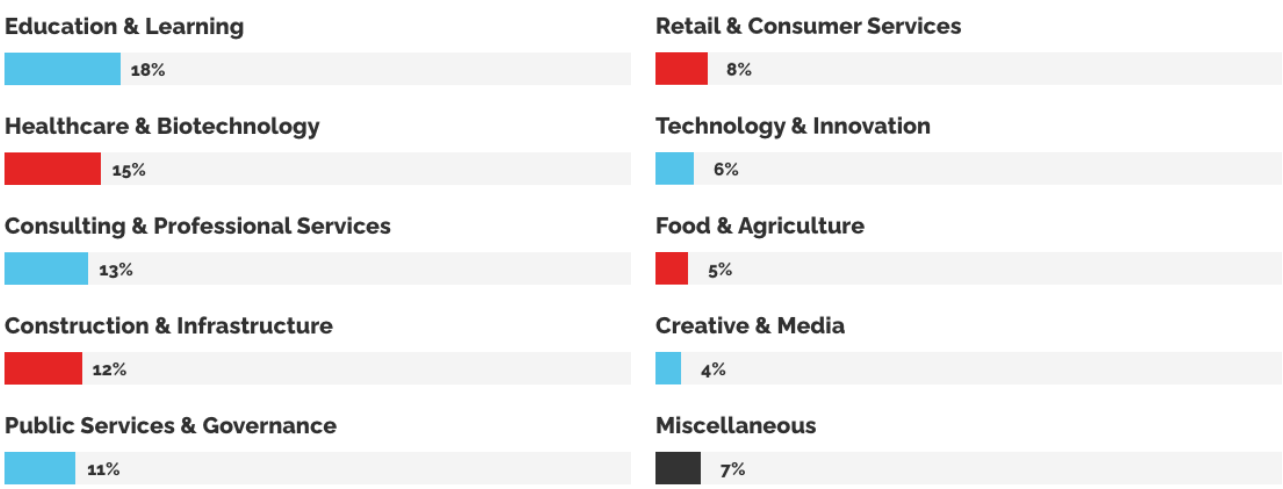
Education Level



CAREER

Our clients in Minnesota work in a wide variety of career fields, many of which are highly employable careers in Luxembourg, like healthcare.

Career Field



[1] Wikipedia contributors. "Education in Minnesota." *Wikipedia*, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Minnesota.

ACLU
Associação dos Cidadãos Luxemburgueses no Brasil
Aliança Francesa
Florianópolis

The Brazilian Luxembourgers

The section "The Brazilian Luxembourgers" explores Luxembourgish migration to Brazil and its lasting impact. The first wave of migration in 1828 involved around 2,500 Luxembourgers, but many were victims of deceit and mistreatment, resulting in most returning to Luxembourg. However, some successfully settled in southern Brazil, particularly in Santa Catarina. A second wave, from 1846 to 1852, faced similar challenges but further established Luxembourgish communities in Santa Catarina and Espírito Santo, where towns such as Santa Leopoldina emerged.

In the 20th and 21st centuries, Luxembourg's connection with Brazil grew through economic and cultural ties, including significant investments in Brazilian industry. Today, over 28,000 Brazilians have obtained Luxembourgish nationality, largely descendants of those early migrants from northern Luxembourg. The historical influence of Luxembourgish settlers remains evident in areas like Santa Catarina, where many descendants continue to celebrate their heritage.

Modern Brazilian-Luxembourgers show a strong desire to reconnect with Luxembourg. Many are interested in learning Luxembourgish and relocating to Europe, motivated by better opportunities for their families. Survey responses indicate that over 84% wish to learn the language, and more than half are considering a move to Luxembourg or another EU country. This trend reflects the enduring connection between Luxembourg and the descendants of its early emigrants to Brazil.

The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

About our dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors who emigrated to Brazil

The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

Over 28,000 Brazilians have obtained Luxembourgish nationality through ancestry. But the story of their Luxembourgish ancestors is often shrouded in mystery. Who were these Luxembourgers and how did they end up in Brazil?

BACKGROUND

634 Brazilian-Luxembourgers participated in our open survey of dual nationals through ancestry. From them, we found 80 Luxembourgish ancestors. Because LuxCitizenship only works with clients in the US, all participants to this survey were non-LuxCitizenship clients.

In this section of our study, we explore the story of Luxembourgish immigration to Brazil and how our respondents' ancestors' stories affect these people reconnecting with Luxembourg today.

STOLEN OPPORTUNITIES: THE 1ST MIGRATORY WAVE

In 1828, German travel agents came to Luxembourg and aggressively promoted migration to Brazil. They convinced around 2,500 Luxembourgish peasants, roughly 1.8% of the national population, to move. At the time, less than 100 Luxembourgers were leaving for the United States.[1]

These "Brasilienfahrer", *Brazil-goers*, set out for the port of Bremen in Germany. Tragically, most of them did not make it to Brazil. Instead of taking the Luxembourgers to Brazil, the travel agents beat and robbed two-thirds of them before they got to Bremen.

70% of the families who set out for Brazil had to return to Luxembourg. Ashamed, or shunned by their communities, these unfortunate Brazil-goers built a new community in the North of Luxembourg, first called Nei-Brasilien, then eventually Grevels. In its first years, the town's impoverished inhabitants survived by stealing potatoes from nearby farms.

[1] Lodhi, Nathalie. "The Three Failed Luxembourgish Migration Expeditions to South America." RTL Today, 22 Aug. 2024, today.rtl.lu/luxembourg-insider/history/a/1715132.html.

[2] We see here that many of the Brazilian ancestors are from Luxembourg's North (Éislek). Vianden is the single largest town where the Brazilians' ancestors were born. Much fewer of the immigrants to the United States were from Luxembourg's North and Canton Vianden is actually the least represented of Luxembourg's 12 cantons.

Image: Luxembourger Nicolas BLEY who immigrated to Brazil in 1828 is believed to have 15,000 direct descendents, many who have obtained Luxembourgish dual citizenship.

The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

SAINT CATHERINE, SAVE US!

It's unlikely that any more than 100 Luxembourgish families made it from the Port of Bremen, Germany to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in this initial migratory wave.

While some of these *Brazil-goers* would move all around Brazil, the vast majority of them would head for what would become today's Santa Catarina (Saint Catherine) state. Santa Catarina is located in Brazil's South and is the country's 10th largest state.

Many of the Luxembourgers would end up in Angelina, São Pedro de Alcântara, Antônio Carlos, and Santo Amaro da Imperatriz – all located in the hills just outside of the state's capital of Florianópolis. This proximity would later make Florianópolis one of the Brazilian cities with the most Luxembourgish dual nationals today.

Santa Catarina, Brazil

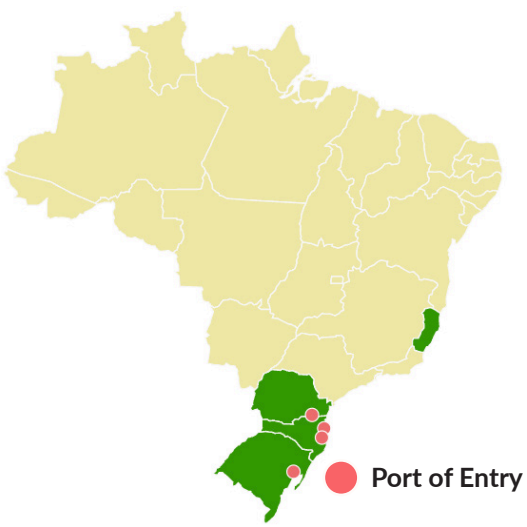
FEW LESSONS LEARNED: THE 2ND MIGRATORY WAVE

The second wave of Luxembourgish immigration to Brazil occurred from 1846-52. The migrants were set to leave through the Port of Dunkirk, France.

Although smaller in scale than the first wave in 1828, most of the second wave *Brazil-goers* met the same tragic fate. While some would actually make their way to Brazil, the majority either returned home after being robbed or were sent to Algeria.

Most of the Luxembourgers who migrated to Brazil during the second wave made their way to Santa Catarina and Espírito Santo (Holy Spirit) states. Espírito Santo is the state north of Rio de Janeiro state.

Second Wave Migratory Patterns



According to Luxembourg's Embassy to Brazil, Luxembourgish communities were also set up not far from Porto Alegre, the capital of the Rio Grande do Sul state, the valleys of Itajaí (Santa Catarina), Rio Negro (Paraná), Curitiba (Paraná), and among other places.

The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

IT GETS BETTER: THE 20TH & 21ST CENTURIES

The 20th and 21st centuries have seen numerous successful exchanges between Brazil and Luxembourg.

Following World War I, Luxembourg's then steel and iron giant ARBED, today's ArcelorMittal, built a considerable industrial complex in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais.

At least 400 Luxembourgish managers, engineers, technicians, and highly qualified steel workers would migrate to the Belo Horizonte region, but most eventually returned to Europe.

The economic success story of Luxembourgish investment in Brazil continues to this day. According to the United States Department of State, Luxembourg was the fourth foreign direct investor in Brazil with the United States in second place in 2020.[1]

So, who were the Brazilian dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors?

ANCESTORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

For the 634 Brazilian-Luxembourgers that participated in our survey, we were able to find 80 Luxembourgish ancestors. All ancestor information included in this study below was provided by our study's respondents, and verified using records on file at the Luxembourg National Archives.

Some of the researched ancestors were siblings. The 80 Luxembourgish ancestors that our Brazilian respondents descend from 50 families who moved from Luxembourg.

On average, 7.4 respondents descended from each of these ancestors. This is 1.6 times more respondents per ancestor than our Argentine respondents, and a whopping 4.3 times more than our American respondents.

Number of Respondents Per Ancestor

Ancestor Name	Year of Birth	Canton of Birth	Number of Descendants
BLEY Nicolas	1808	Diekirch	98
STEIL/STEYL Peter	1804	unknown	46
GREIN Petrus	1783	Echternach	36
MANNES Nicolas	1809	Echternach	22
KAMERS Theodor	1817	Clervaux	20

[1] United States, Department of State. 2020 Investment Climate Statements: Brazil. U.S. Department of State, 2020, www.state.gov/reports/2020-investment-climate-statements/brazil/.

Image: Then-Prince Jean, future Grand Duke of Luxembourg (1964-2000) visited the ARBED industrial complex with local Luxembourgish leader Louis Ensch around the time of World War II.

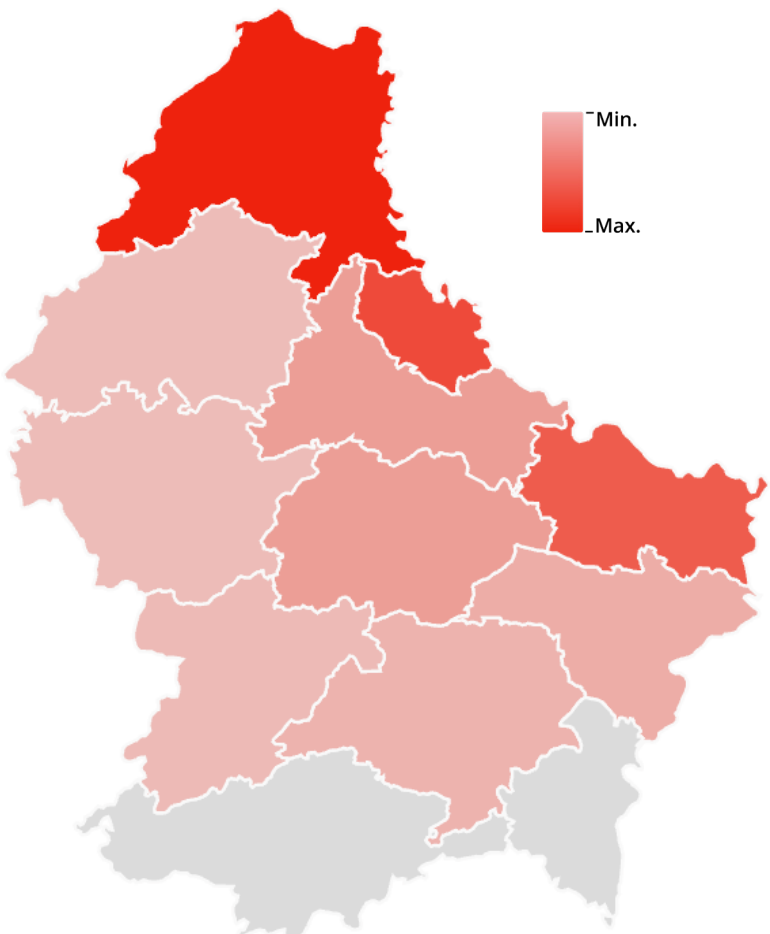
The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

ABOUT OUR DUAL NATIONALS' ANCESTORS

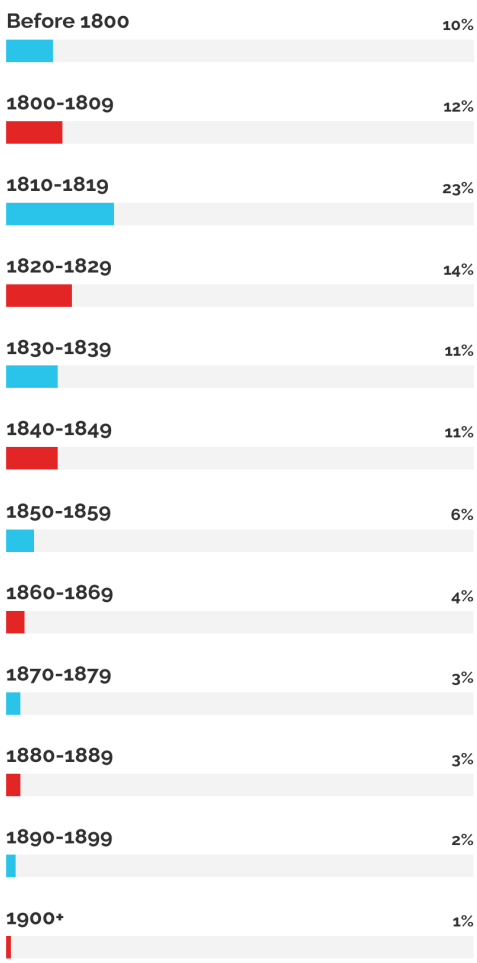
54.9% of the ancestors studied were born in the North of Luxembourg in the cantons of Clervaux and Vianden alone. Luxembourgish immigrants from these cantons were responsible for a very low percentage of immigration to the United States and Argentina, making immigration from this region unique to Brazil.

The majority of these ancestors were born between 1820 and 1859, and participated in the second wave of mass Luxembourgish immigration to Brazil.

Ancestor Canton of Birth



Ancestor Year of Birth

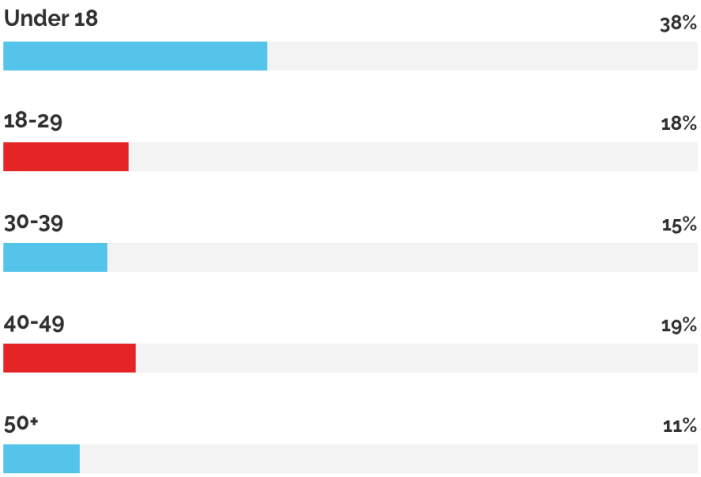


The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

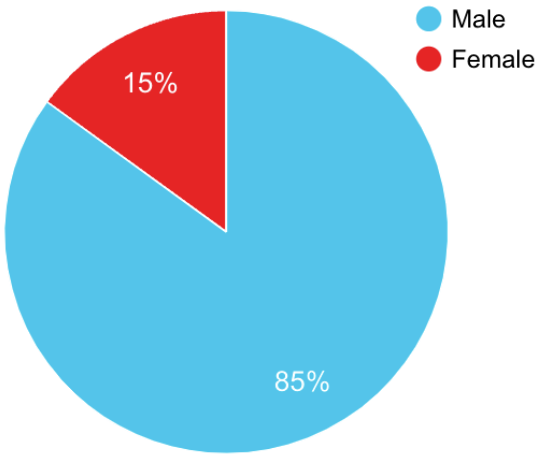
LARGEST GROUPING LEAVING FOR BRAZIL: YOUNG MEN

Over **85%** of the Luxembourgish ancestors who emigrated to Brazil did so before the end of the 1860s. By this time, the majority of emigration efforts focused on relocating to the United States, Argentina, and France, with smaller efforts to establish communities in countries such as Guatemala and Algeria.

Age at Time of Emigration



Ancestor Gender[1]



[1] The proportion of men might be distorted because only descendants of male ancestors are eligible under Article 7, representing a certain portion of the applicants.

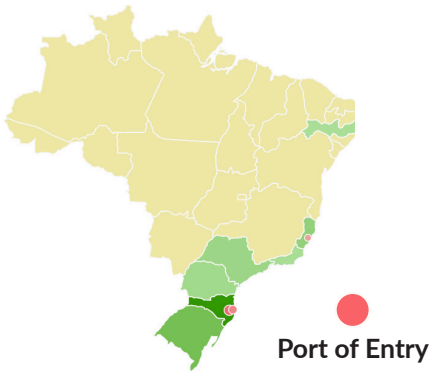
The Luxembourgish-Brazilian Ancestors

WHERE DID OUR DUAL NATIONALS' ANCESTORS SET UP IN BRAZIL?

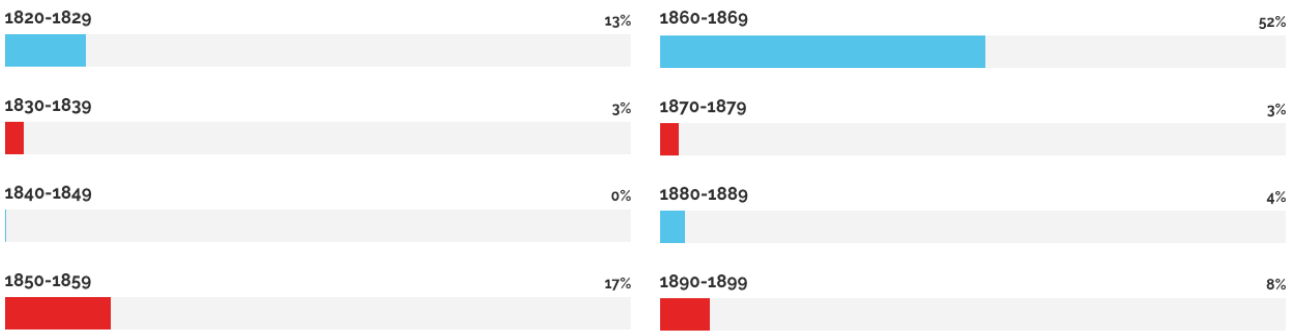
Across the 80 ancestors, 61.3% settled in the state of Santa Catarina. Of those who emigrated to Santa Catarina, 59.2% of these Luxembourgish migrants settled in the towns of Rancho Queimado, Angelina, and São Pedro de Alcântara alone.

Another 5 ancestors, or 6% of the Luxembourgish immigrants studied, immigrated to Santa Leopoldina, in Brazil's Espirito Santo state. This town has strong ties to the Luxembourgish immigrant community, as it was founded by immigrants primarily from Luxembourg, Germany, and Switzerland.

Ancestor Location of Emigration



Year of Immigration



The Brazilian-Luxembourgers

A demographic overview of Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living in Brazil.

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers

BACKGROUND

According to STATEC[1], at least 894 Brazilian dual nationals were living in Luxembourg on January 1, 2023. Most obtained their Luxembourgish nationality through ancestry.

In addition, now over 28,574 Luxembourgish nationals also live in Brazil, 30% of which have obtained nationality since 1 January, 2023. On top of that, thousands more Brazilians have the right to finalize their nationality application for nationality until 31 December, 2025.

Without a doubt, the population of Brazilian dual nationals living in Luxembourg will increase significantly in the future. This highlights the importance of this demographic study.

GROWTH OVER THE YEARS

Few Luxembourgish politicians imagined the popularity of the new Luxembourgish dual nationality programs in Brazil. And yet, more people there have obtained Luxembourgish nationality than anywhere else. The largest group of them (7,693) obtained nationality in **2023** alone.

Since 2018, the number of Luxembourgish nationals in Brazil has increased from **2,844** to **28,574**. While Brazilians started applying for Luxembourgish dual nationality much later than their compatriots in the United States, the total number of Luxembourgish nationals in Brazil overtook the United States on June 2nd, 2019, and has grown ever faster since.

And these numbers are guaranteed to grow. From the **15,477** Brazilians originally deemed eligible to complete a nationality application under Article 89, **3,013** Brazilians were still eligible[2] to obtain Luxembourgish dual nationalship under Article 89 as of 1 January 2024. Additionally, other paths to obtain nationality are still in effect.

Luxembourg has a population of 676,685. There are already 28,574 Luxembourgish nationals living in Brazil, which is equivalent to 4.2% of Luxembourg's total population.

[1] Email with STATEC dated January 24th, 2023. Data available upon request

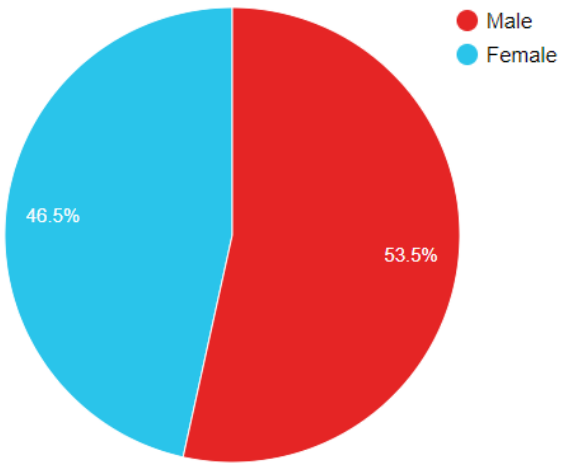
[2] Berthold, Thomas. "Legislatives: Les Partis Vont Chercher Des Voix Au Brésil." Virgule, 25 Aug. 2024, www.virgule.lu/luxembourg/legislatives-les-partis-vont-chercher-des-voix-au-bresil/1350807.html.

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers

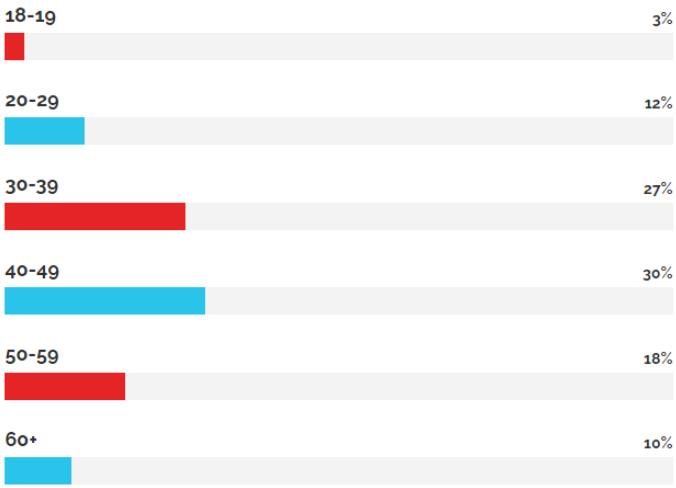
ABOUT OUR BRAZILIAN DUAL NATIONALS

634 Brazilian-Luxembourgish dual citizens over 18 years old responded to LuxCitizenship's open survey. The largest portion of the respondents are in the age range 30-49. More men responded than women.

Respondent Gender



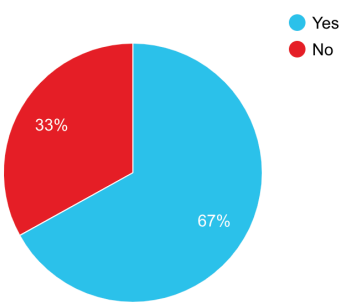
Respondent Age



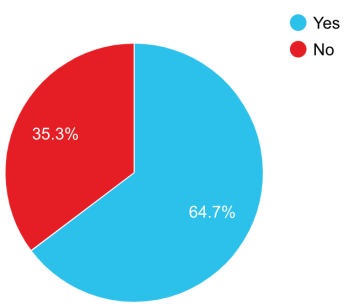
APPLICANT MOBILITY – HOW "CLOSE TO HOME" ARE BRAZILIAN-LUXEMBOURGERS?

35.3% of Brazilian respondents no longer live in the state where their Luxembourgish ancestor resided. While this is a significant percentage, this is just under half of the amount for the American-Luxembourgers. Overall, this is a moderately mobile population.

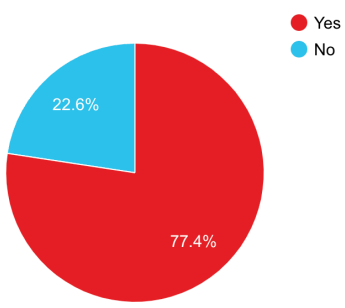
Born in State Where Ancestor Lived



Live in Same State as Ancestor



Born & Live in the Same State



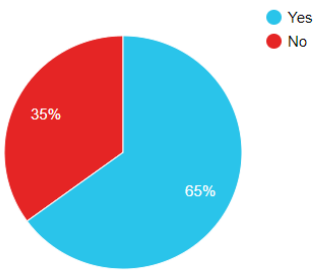
While **99.4%** of dual nationals surveyed were born in Brazil, **8.4%** now live in Luxembourg. Another **5.7%** of respondents now live in another country.

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers

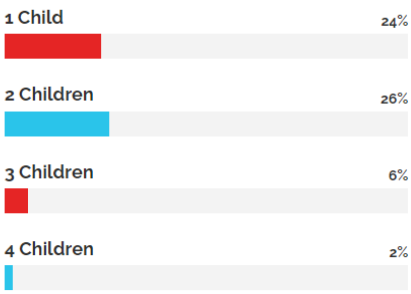
ABOUT THE FAMILIES

65% of the Brazilian dual nationals surveyed are married. **60.3%** of respondents have children. The largest group among them has two children, with the most common age brackets being 3-9 and 18+.

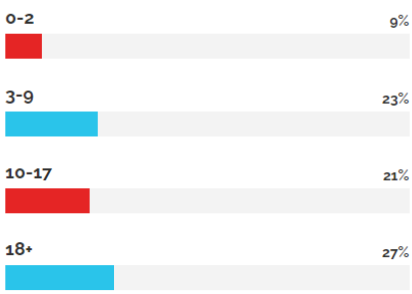
Married?



of Children



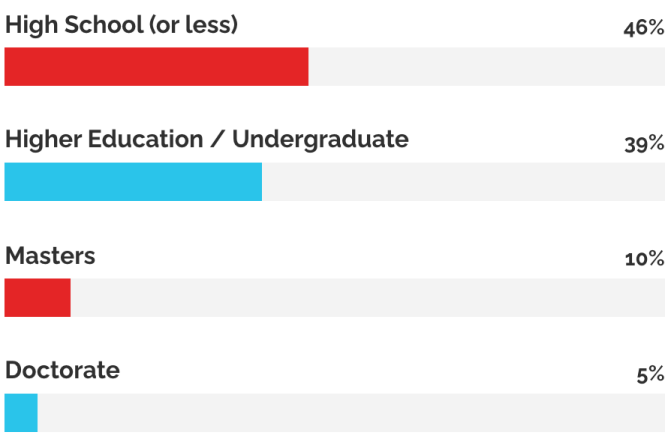
Children Age Ranges



APPLICANT EDUCATION

86.8% of our Brazil respondents indicate that they have pursued higher education beyond high school. **15.1%** of respondents have completed at least one masters or doctorate program.

Education Level Achieved

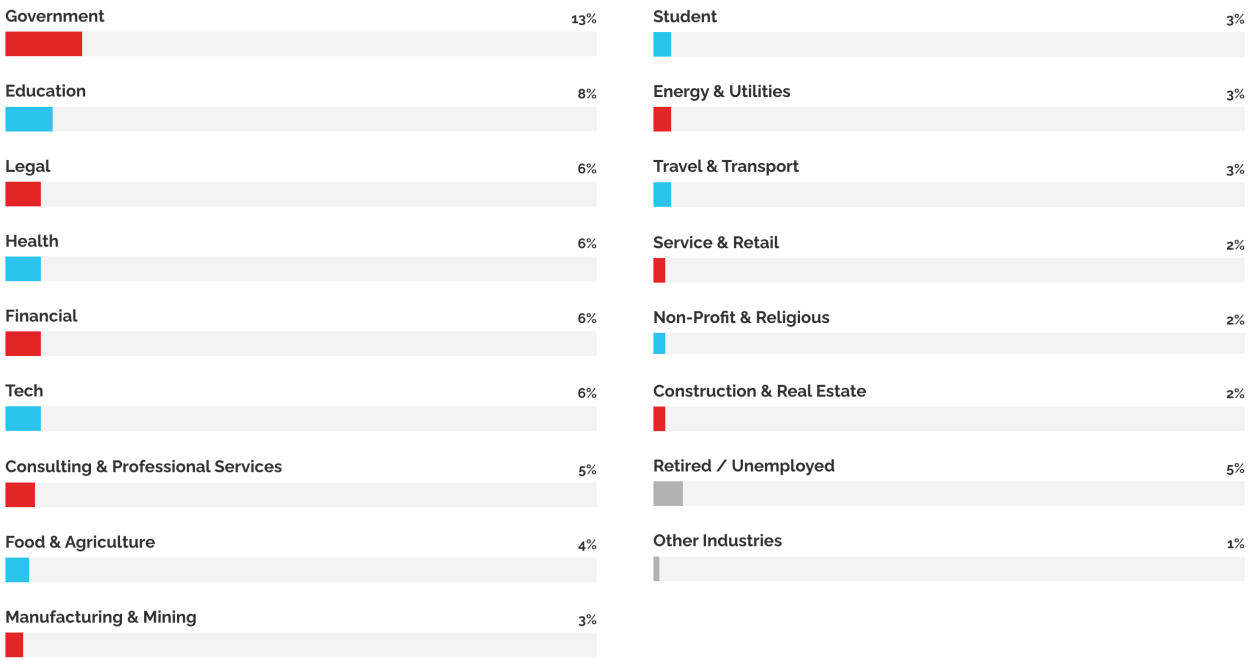


The Brazilian-Luxembourgers

APPLICANT CAREERS

Out of the respondents from the three countries, the Brazilian-Luxembourgers were the most likely to work in Government, Legal, and Food & Agriculture fields.

Most Recent Industry of Employment



APPLICANT JOB TITLES

It seems like the applicants might have many different jobs and titles. But, some titles were repeated a lot. These include **analyst**, **civil servant**, and **teacher**.

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers Survey

A survey of how the Luxembourgish dual nationals in Brazil see their future with Luxembourg.

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers Survey

BACKGROUND

The following is the 2nd edition of the only systematic survey of the Brazilian-Luxembourger dual nationals. In it, respondents provided answers to questions on their future in Luxembourg and motivations for applying for dual nationality. LuxCitizenship works with clients in the US, so none of the respondents were our clients. However, all respondents self-identified as Luxembourgish nationals. We verified this by confirming that they provided a valid Luxembourgish ancestor through specific questions in the survey, as we did for all of our other surveys.

KEY FINDINGS

Having analyzed the results of our survey conducted in July 2023, we have highlighted some general findings.

1. Over **84%** (533) of the respondents indicated wanting to learn Luxembourgish.

2. **54%** (342) of the respondents want to move to Luxembourg, while **8%** (51) already live there.

3. **24%** (152) of the respondents expressed an interest in specifically moving to Luxembourg in the next five years.

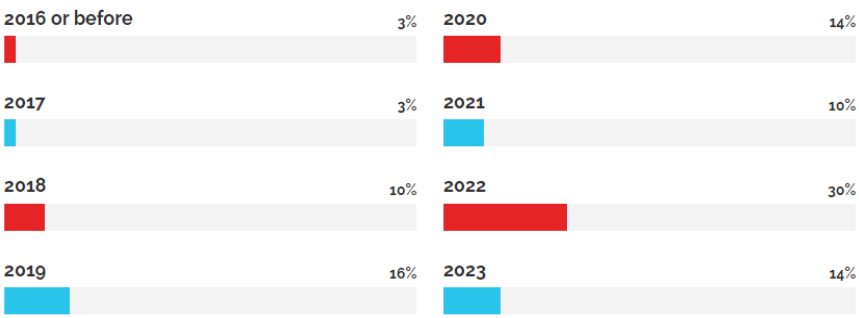
4. Only **16%** (101) of the respondents are not considering a move to Europe in the future, which is over **3x less** than for Argentina or the United States.

NATIONALITY STATUS

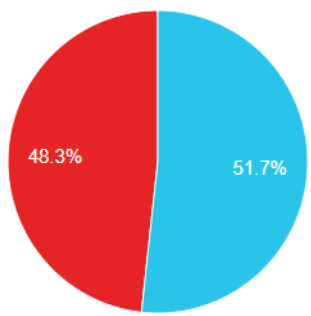
When did they apply?

100% of our survey respondents have already obtained Luxembourgish dual nationality. Furthermore, **51.7%** indicated that they have obtained a Luxembourgish passport.

Year Citizenship Was Received



Have a Luxembourgish Passport?



The Brazilian-Luxembourgers Survey

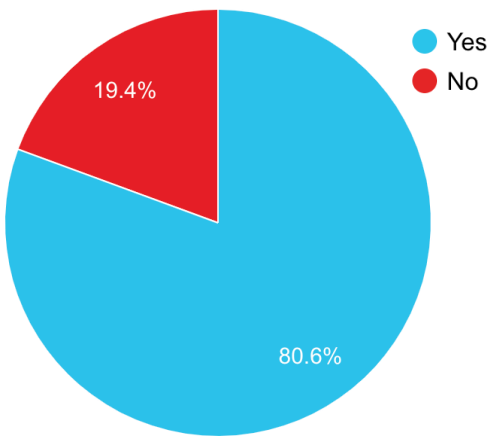
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

We asked the dual nationals about their experiences outside of Brazil.

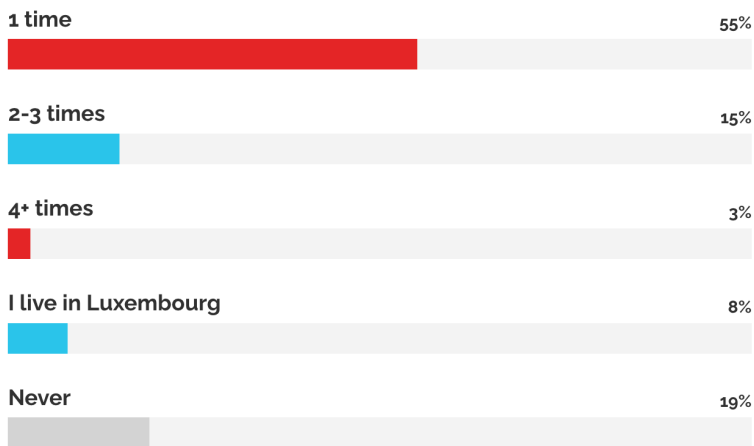
Who's Been to the Grand Duchy?

While not all of our participants had to travel to Luxembourg to complete their nationality applications, 80.6% reported that they have visited Luxembourg in their lifetime. Of the three countries included in our study, the Brazilian-Luxembourgers were also the most likely to live in Luxembourg, with 8.4% of respondents currently living there.

Traveled to Luxembourg



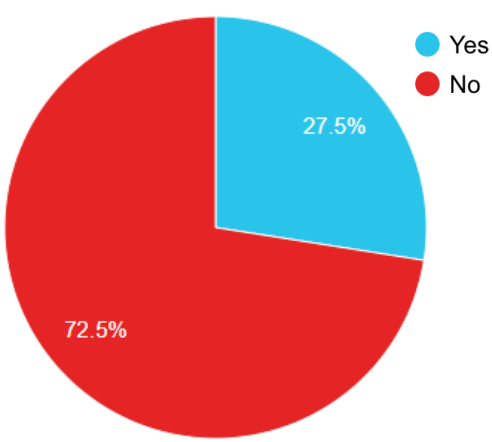
How many times?



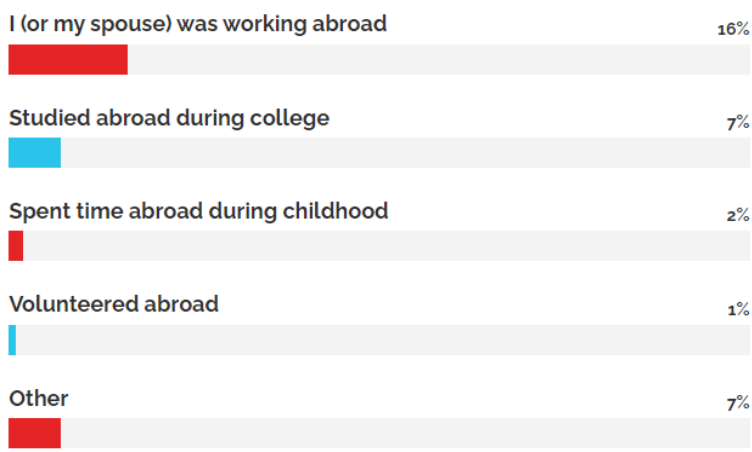
TIME SPENT OUTSIDE BRAZIL

Just over 27.5% of the survey respondents have lived outside of Brazil. 15.8% have worked abroad in some capacity.

Have You Lived Abroad?



Why?



**Respondents could make multiple choices and the percentage is based on the number of respondents that answered the question.*

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers Survey

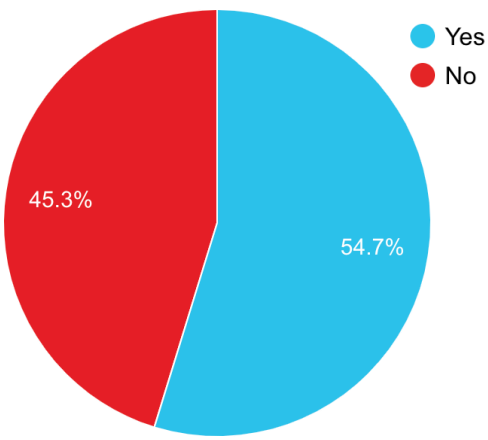
MULTILINGUALISM

Most people in Luxembourg speak 4-5 languages. How do the Brazilian dual nationals compare?

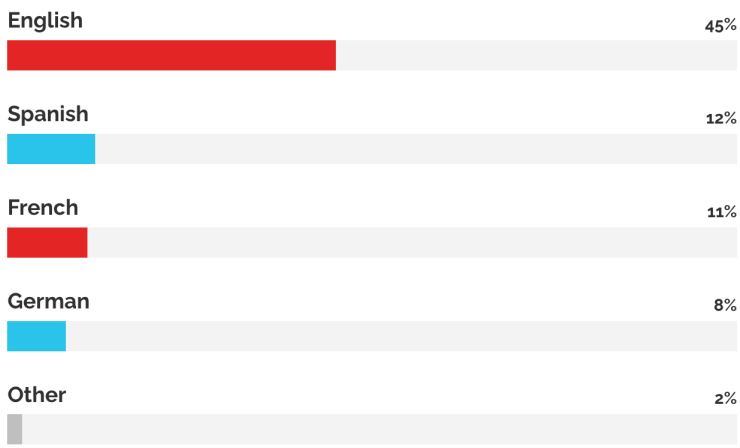
Foreign Language Competencies

54.7% of the dual national respondents self-reported speaking a foreign language. The standard used for this question in the survey was "Do you have the ability to fluidly use a language for the responsibilities of your work?" This number (54.7%) reflects the respondents' actual answers, but we assess that this number is far too high in comparison to reality.

Do You Speak a Foreign Language?



Languages Spoken



*Percentage of all respondents speaking language. Possible to make multiple choices

Schwätzt Dir Lëtzebuergesch?

84.8% of the Brazilian dual citizen participants expressed that they are interested in learning Luxembourgish. This is the highest level of interest expressed during our study.

Interested in Learning Luxembourgish?

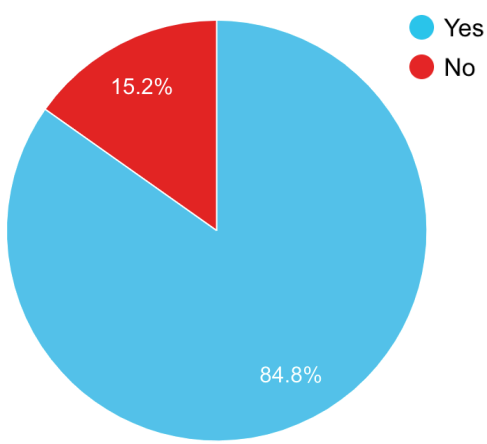


Image: An extract from RTL TV Lëtzebuerg's report "Luxembourger and Brazilian" (Lëtzebuerger a Brasilien).

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers Survey

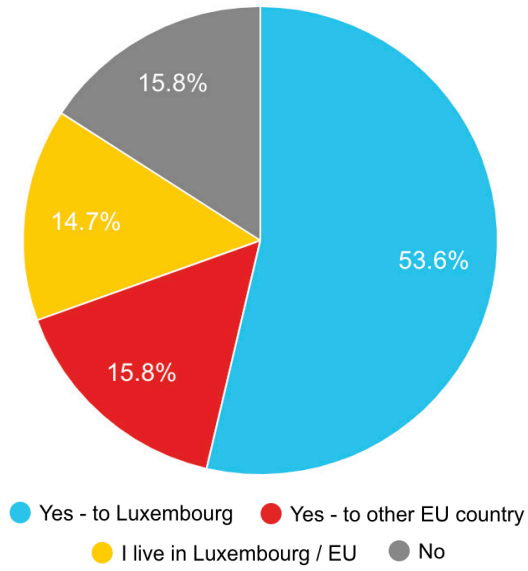
INTEREST IN MOVING

Do these new dual nationals plan to put their Luxembourgish passport to use? How do they see their future in Europe?

As many as 53.6% of the dual nationals living in Brazil are considering a move to Luxembourg one day. Additionally, 15.8% would consider moving to another EU country.

Of participants that expressed interest in moving to the EU in the next five years, 23% indicated that they would make the move with their spouse, 48.3% with their children, and 28.7% would go alone.

Want to Move to the EU?



WHERE ARE THEY HEADED?

14.4% of Brazilian dual national respondents, about 91 people, are considering a move to Luxembourg in the next two years. As far as other popular destinations people want to move to, Portugal, Spain, and France are the most popular.

Move to Luxembourg - When

What other EU Country?

The Brazilian-Luxembourgers Survey

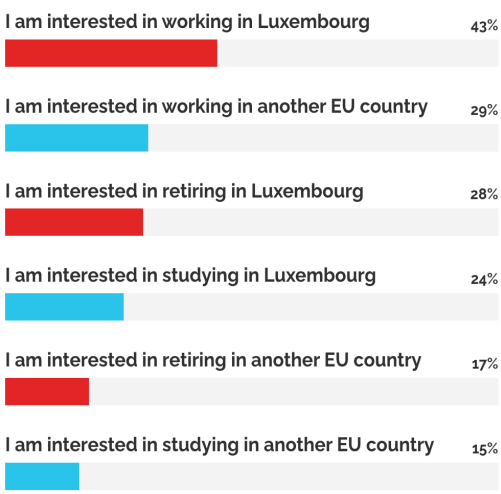
APPLICATION MOTIVATIONS

What drove these Brazilians to apply for Luxembourgish dual nationality?

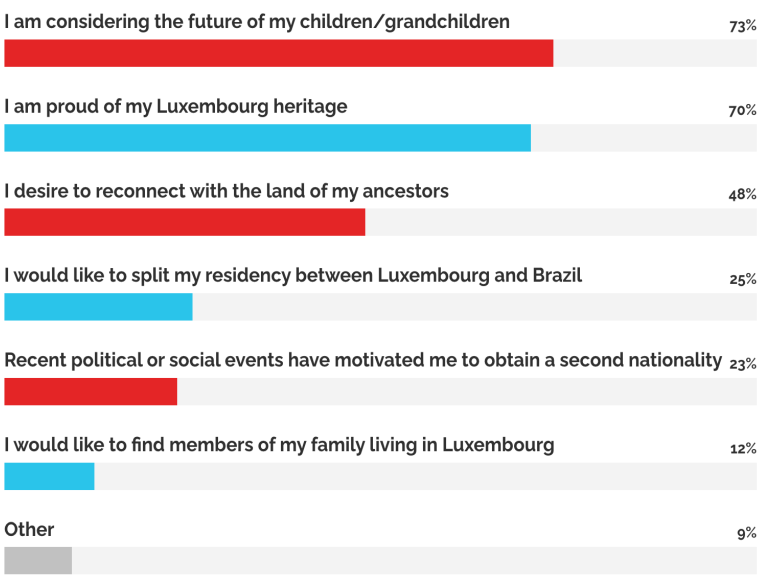
By far the stand-out motivator for applying for dual nationality was the possibility to provide respondents and their families with more opportunities in the future .

Now that they have obtained Luxembourgish nationality, the same participants have varying plans for their future with Europe, with the largest percentage hoping to work there.

Potential Interests



Application Motivators



The Argentine Luxembourgers

"The Argentine Luxembourgers" explores the migration of Luxembourgers to Argentina and the experiences of their descendants today. Beginning in the mid-1850s, about 500-1,000 Luxembourgers migrated to Argentina, drawn by opportunities in agriculture and favorable immigration policies. Luxembourgers played a significant role in founding Esperanza, Argentina's first organized agricultural colony. Despite challenges like those faced in the San Antonio de Iraola colony, they contributed to Argentina's agricultural development during the "Great European Immigration."

Today, Argentine-Luxembourgers are reconnecting with their Luxembourgish roots. Over 70% of surveyed dual nationals are eager to learn Luxembourgish, while 59.3% express interest in moving to the EU, primarily later in life. Despite this interest, many remain settled in Argentina, valuing the connection to their heritage and seeking opportunities for future generations.

Argentine-Luxembourgers are also a mobile and well-integrated community. Over a fifth have moved from their province of origin, often from rural areas to Buenos Aires. They display high education levels and a notable presence in civil service. Pursuing dual nationality is largely motivated by honoring their heritage and expanding future opportunities, blending Luxembourgish history with present-day aspirations.

The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

About our dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors who immigrated to Argentina.

The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

BACKGROUND

This research study is based on responses from 124 Argentine-Luxembourish dual nationals. All respondents are non-LuxCitizenship clients who participated in an open online survey of confirmed dual nationals through ancestry.

From our 124 dual nationals respondents, we were able to confirm 28 Luxembourgish ancestors. In this third section of our study, we dive into the story of Luxembourgish immigration to Argentina.

WHY DID LUXEMBOURGERS MIGRATE TO ARGENTINA?

Beginning in the mid-1850s, Argentina set out to attract European agricultural workers to immigrate to the country. Motivated by relative economic hardship in their own country or just seeking a new start, some 500-1,000 Luxembourgers would answer that call.

At the time, Argentina had a booming economy and a strong need for workers to cultivate its nearly unlimited swathes of arable land. Hundreds of Luxembourgers emigrated to Argentina during the period known as the “Great European Immigration."

Argentina’s Great European Immigration primarily took place from the 1850s to early 1900s, during which time Argentina’s population nearly quadrupled in size. Luxembourgers were drawn to the nation’s open immigration policies and agricultural opportunities.

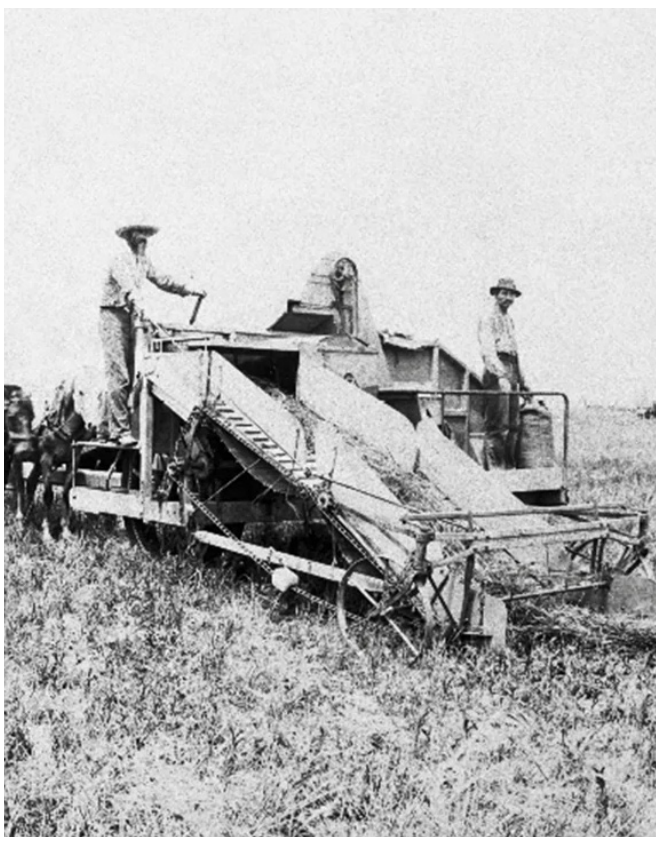


Image: Santa Fe entre dos siglos." Image: Farmers in Esperanza, Santa Fe, Argentina, 1890. https://www.industriascreativas.gob.ar/uploads/archivos/ediciones_catalogo/sfe2s-digital.pdf.

The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

OFF TO ESPERANZA – THE EARLIEST LUXEMBOURGISH MIGRANTS

Accompanied by Swiss, German, French, Italian, and Belgian immigrants, Luxembourgish families held an important role in establishing Esperanza. At the time, Esperanza was Argentina's first formally organized agricultural colony. Even today it is still considered one of Argentina's most successful organized immigration efforts.

In early 1856, 200 European families made their way to Argentina's Santa Fe Province as a part of the agro-colonialization project organized between the government of Santa Fe and Argentine military commander Aarón Castellanos. The (soon to be) immigrants signed "Agricultural Colonization Contracts" before ever touching foot on Argentine soil.

In these contracts, the Luxembourgish immigrants were promised housing, land, livestock, and seeds upon their arrival in Esperanza, as well as free transportation to the colony. Unlike in the United States, in Argentina, the Luxembourgish immigrants would need to buy their own property, which they were able to pay off using the same crops that they came over to farm.

"ARGENTINE FEVER" – THE PEAK OF ARGENTINE IMMIGRATION

The second and largest wave of Luxembourgish immigration took place from 1888 to 1891. This three year period is termed as "Argentine Fever".[1]

In the late 1880s, "Argentinienfieber" swept through Luxembourg, promoting Argentina's location in the Americas, its thriving economy, and the welcoming attitude towards rural farmers without modern farming techniques or professional qualifications.

Luxembourgish immigrants of that era were primarily attracted to the idea of mass immigration. While some still went to Argentina individually, the idea of establishing Luxembourgish or Germanic communities was appealing, as it reduced the challenges of adapting to a new country with unfamiliar language, culture, and landscape.

Most Luxembourgers initially settled in the Buenos Aires and Entre Rios provinces during this period.

Today,

26.9%

of our Argentine study respondents still live in Esperanza, having descended from 3 different Luxembourgish families.

[1] Russo, Pablo Mariano. Luxembourgeois en Argentine: Histoire d'une Migration Humaine. Contributions by Tom Diederich, Preface by Hector Fischbach, Editorial Minerva, 2024.

Image: "Santa Fe entre dos siglos." Image: Esperanza's plaza (front) and municipal building (back), 1885. https://www.industriascreativas.gob.ar/uploads/archivos/ediciones_catalogo/sfe2s-digital.pdf.

The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

NOT WHAT WE SIGNED UP FOR : IMMIGRATION TO SAN ANTONIO DE IRAOLA

25% of the Luxembourgish ancestors included in our study served as founding members of the San Antonio de Iraola colony. Unfortunately, these immigrants ended up in a difficult situation, and had to relocate within years of their arrival.[1]

News of fertile land and quick land ownership in San Antonio de Iraola Colony spread rapidly in Luxembourg, endorsed by the Luxembourger Wort and the bishop at the time. The project was overseen by a Luxembourgish priest, Jean-Pierre Didier, boosting confidence among hopeful immigrants.

However, upon arrival, Luxembourgish settlers in San Antonio de Iraola encountered infertile land, incomplete housing, disease, and an oppressive loan system by the colony's private landowner. Despite signing up for a 6-year labor contract, the colony dissolved prematurely.

Due to its private ownership, there are limited records about the colony's dissolution. Many Luxembourgers returned home, while others migrated to Brazil, the United States, or different parts of Argentina.

[1] *Russo, Luxembourgeois en Argentine.*
Image: "San Antonio frente a la laguna" – FAMÍLIA PIERRET

The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

GOOD WHILE IT LASTED – THE SLOWING OF IMMIGRATION TO ARGENTINA

While Argentina's 6.6 million European immigrants helped to shape and rapidly grow Argentina's economy, new complications caused immigration to slow in the early 20th century.

Higher pay in Buenos Aires led many families to move to the city in search for work. As poverty and unemployment rates quickly rose as a result, crime rates increased and clashes between the immigrants and Argentine government became more and more common.

Argentina's political elite began speaking poorly of 'unrestricted European immigration', and immigration policies tightened down shortly after. The start of World War I also complicated the trip for many Luxembourgers and other Europeans alike.

ANCESTORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

For the 124 Argentine-Luxembourgers that participated in our survey, we were able to identify 28 Luxembourgish Ancestors. All ancestor information included in this study below was provided by our study's respondents, and verified using records on file at the Luxembourg National Archives.

Some of the researched ancestors were siblings. The 28 Luxembourgish ancestors that our Argentine respondents descend from came from 26 families who moved from Luxembourg.

On average, 4.4 respondents descended from each of these ancestors. This is 2.6 times more respondents per ancestor than our American respondents, but 1.6 times less than our Brazilian resondents.

Number of Respondents per Ancestor

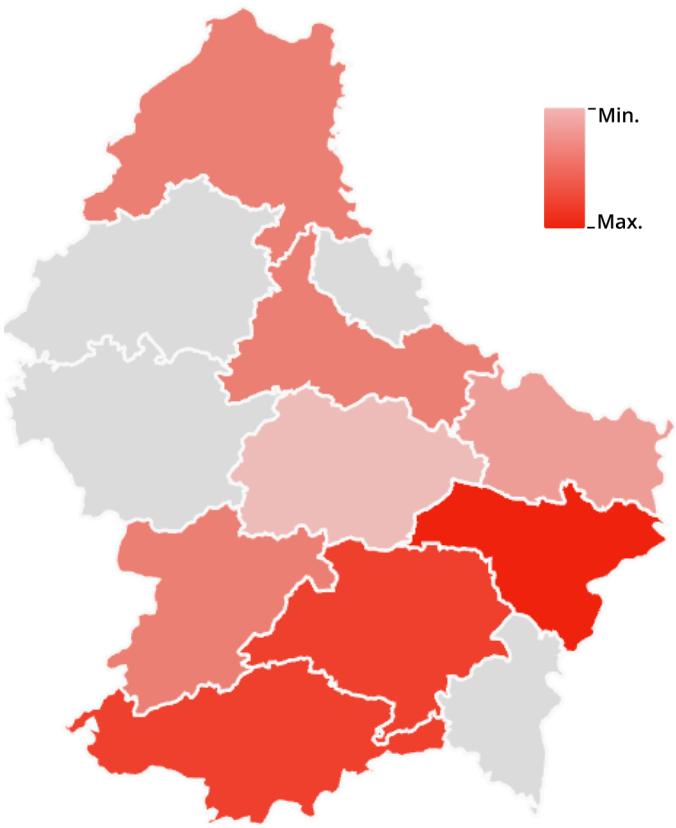
Ancestor Name	Year of Birth	Canton of Birth	Number of Descendants
MERING Henri	1826	Echternach	29
FISCHBACH Franz	1862	Capellen	17
BAUM Michel	1888	Esch-sur-Alzette	14
MEDERNACH Théodore	1860	Mersch	8
ERPELDING Pierre	1881	Luxembourg	7

The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

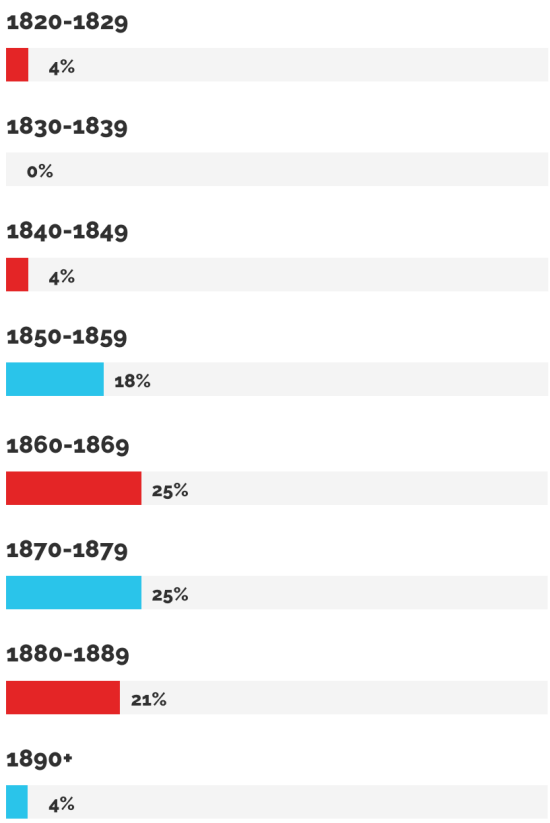
ABOUT OUR DUAL NATIONALS' ANCESTORS

57.1% of the ancestors studied were born in the South of Luxembourg, in the cantons of Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette, and Grevenmacher. The majority of these ancestors were born in the second half of the 18th century and participated in the second wave of mass Luxembourgish immigration to Argentina.

Ancestor Canton of Birth



Ancestor Year of Birth



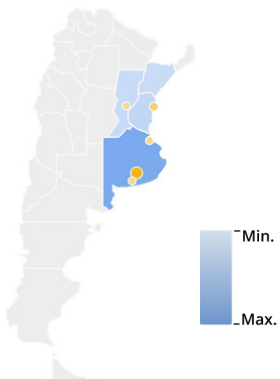
The Luxembourgish-Argentine Ancestors

ABOUT THEIR MIGRATION PATTERNS

As we know, the majority of Luxembourgers arrived in Argentina during the "Argentine Fever" period from 1888 to 1891. When comparing general migration trends to the United States and Brazil, this is the most recent mass migration from Luxembourg to the Americas.

While the average age at time of immigration for these Luxembourgish ancestors was **21 years old**, children as young as **1 year old** made the trip to Argentina with their families.

Ancestor Residence in Argentina

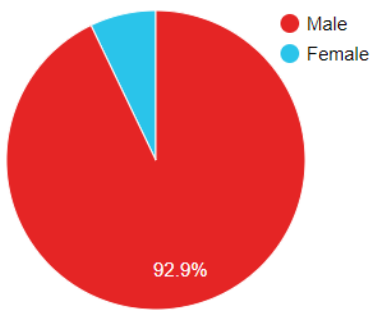


ARGENTINE-LUXEMBOURGERS IN THE 20TH CENTURY

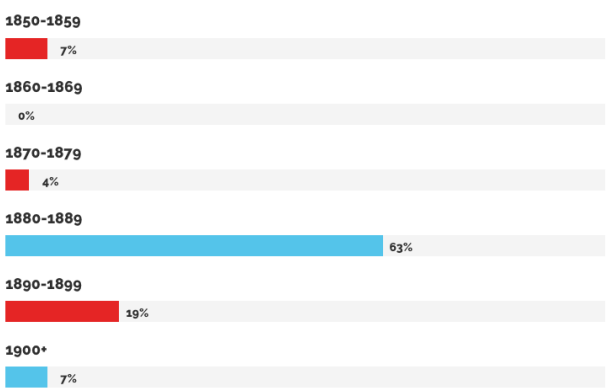
One thing we've noticed time and time again is that the Luxembourgish immigrants lived quite long lives. Of the ancestors included in our study, the average age at time of passing was **71.8** years old. The national average was **61.3** years old in 1940 (the average year of death across the group).

While many Luxembourgish immigrants passed away in the provinces of Entre Rios and Santa Fe, the most common province where the ancestors lived at the end of their lives was Buenos Aires.

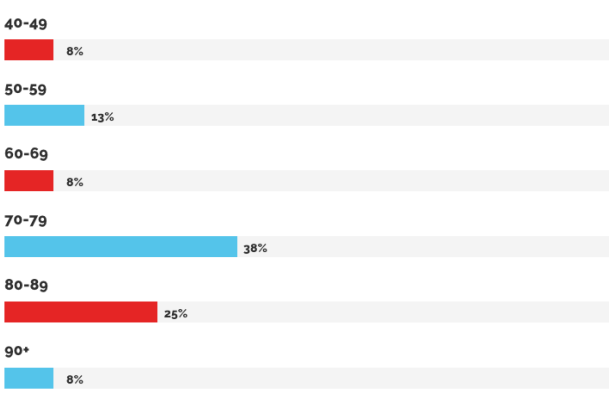
Ancestor Gender[1]



Ancestor Year of Emigration



Ancestor Age at End of Life



[1] The proportion of men might be distorted because only descendants of male ancestors are eligible under Article 7, representing a certain portion of the applicants.

The Argentine-Luxembourgers

A demographic overview of the Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living in Argentina.

The Argentine-Luxembourgers

BACKGROUND

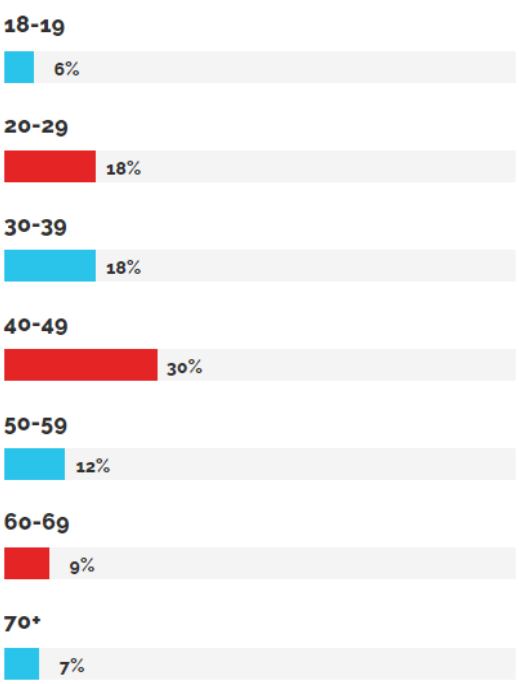
After LuxCitizenship's trip to Argentina to meet with the Argentine-Luxembourger community in April 2023, we were driven to expand our research study to the 3rd largest Luxembourgish dual national community in the Americas.

The 2024 edition of the Argentine-Luxembourgers study is based on data from Luxembourg's Ministry of Justice, National Archives, Data.Public. Lu, CTIE, STATEC, and our own study of 124 Luxembourgish dual nationals and 28 Luxembourgish ancestors.

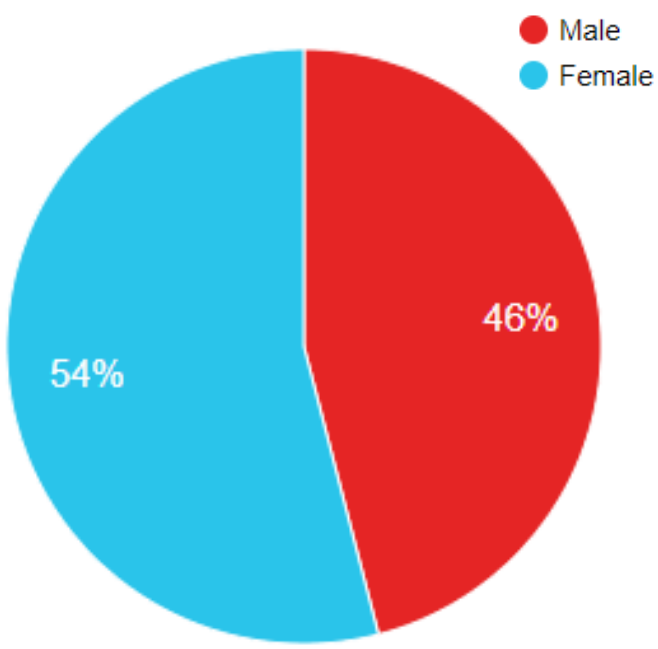
MEET THE NEW LUXEMBOURGERS

The **124** dual nationals included in this demographic study are represented in a wide range of demographics and walks of life.

Respondent Age



Respondent Gender

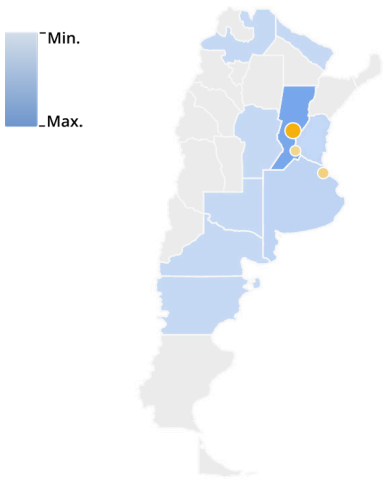


The Argentine-Luxembourgers

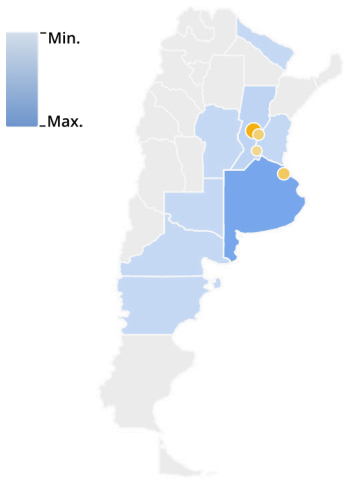
WHERE ARE THEY FROM?

Much like their Luxembourgish ancestors, many of our study's respondents call the provinces of Santa Fe and Buenos Aires home. **65.3%** of all our respondents live in these two provinces alone, which was the place of residence for **57.1%** of the ancestors we studied.

Respondent Province of Birth



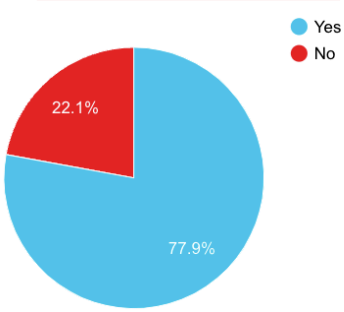
Respondent Province of Residence



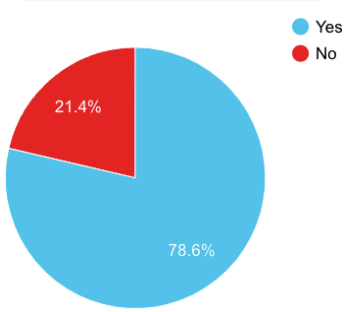
MOBILITY – HOW "CLOSE TO HOME" ARE THE ARGENTINE-LUXEMBOURGERS?

21.4% of respondents no longer live in the province where their Luxembourgish ancestor resided. Of these same respondents, **25%** of them also do not live in the state where they were born.
While this is a comparable percentage to the Brazilian-Luxembourgers, it is **1.9** times lower than that of the American-Luxembourgers. Like the American-Luxembourgers, this is a fairly mobile population.

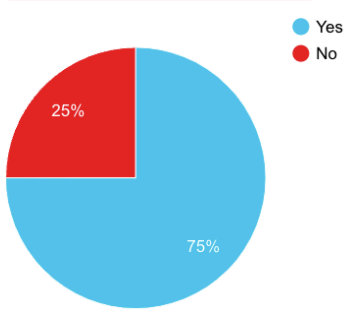
Born in Province Where Ancestor Lived



Live in Same Province as Ancestor



Born + Live in the Same Province

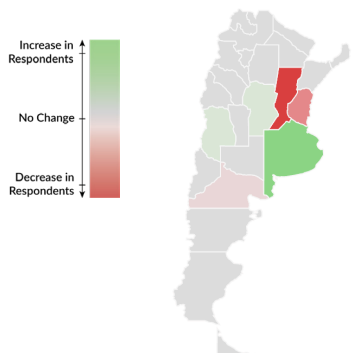


The Argentine-Luxembourgers

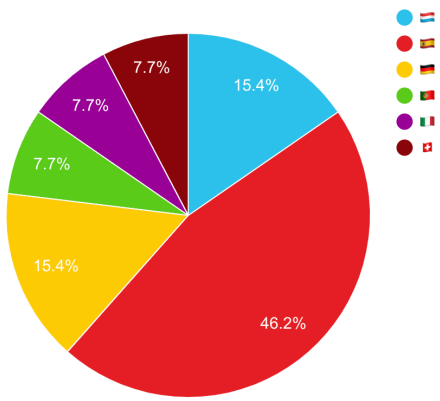
WHERE HAVE THEY MOVED?

Despite the deep roots that Argentine-Luxembourgers have in specific regions in Argentina, some respondents have relocated during their lifetimes. The most common trend we see is a shift from rural to urban areas, particularly to Buenos Aires.

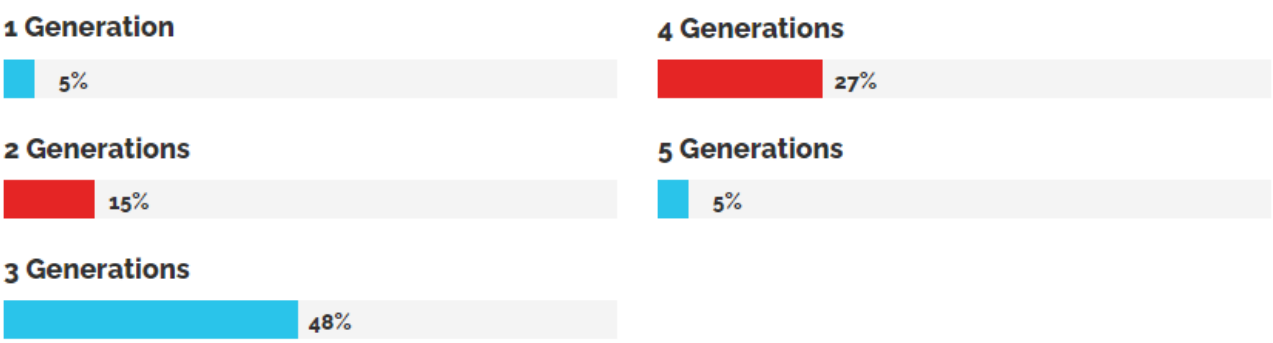
Where Have Respondents Moved Since Birth?



Respondents Living Abroad, By Country



Generations Removed From Ancestor



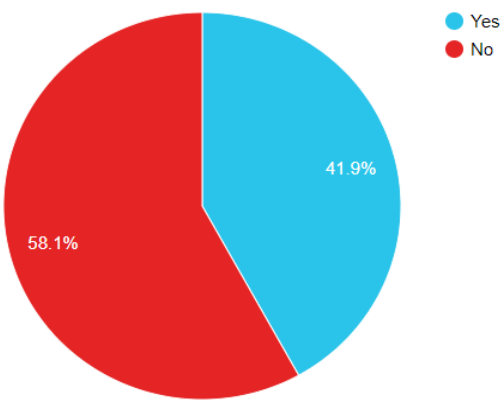
The Argentine-Luxembourgers

While the majority of our Argentine-Luxembourger survey respondents currently live in Argentina, 16.9% of respondents reported having lived abroad during their lifetimes.

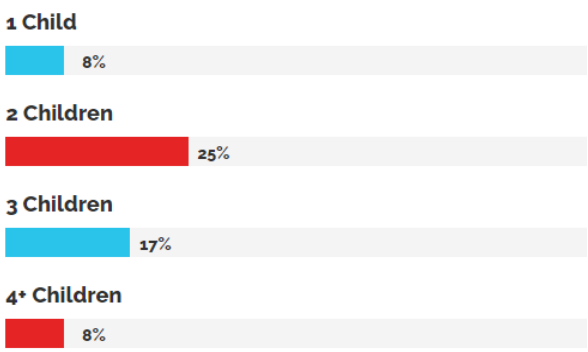
ABOUT THE FAMILIES

41.9% of all Argentine-Luxembourger dual nationals surveyed indicated that they are married. **58.9%** of all respondents reported that they have children. The largest group among them has two children, reflecting a demographic trend common in Argentina.

Married?



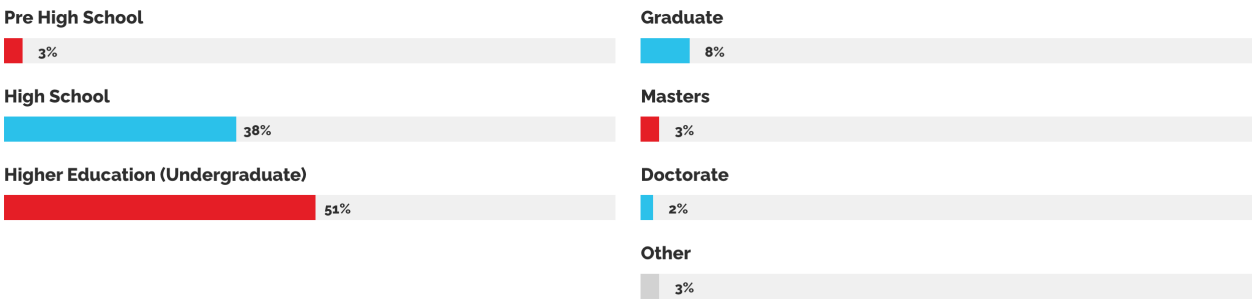
of Children



EDUCATION LEVEL

36.3% of respondents indicated that their highest level of education was high school. In addition, **56.5%** of all respondents have pursued higher education. This shows a highly educated populace among Argentine-Luxembourgers.

Education Level Achieved



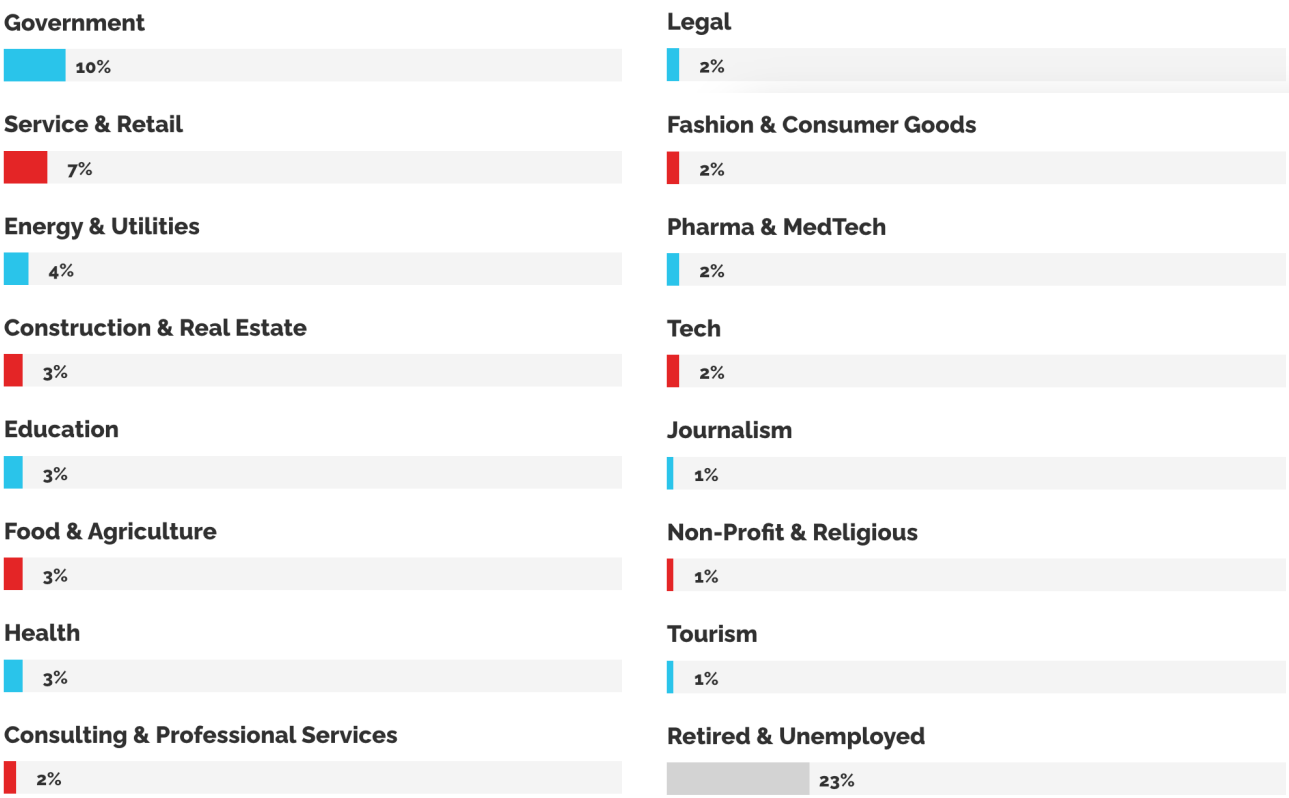
The Argentine-Luxembourgers

EMPLOYMENT AVENUES

Much like the Brazilian-Luxembourgers, the largest percentage of our Argentine respondents work for the government as civil servants or contract employees. On the contrary, fewer of the Argentine-Luxembourgers report working in healthcare than their American cousins.

Of our Argentina respondents, 29.8% declined to answer the question about if they were actively working or what is their professional career path. By comparison, only 20.5% in Brazil and 5.8% in the US declined to answer this question.

Career Path



The Argentine-Luxembourgers Survey

A survey of how the Luxembourgish dual nationals in Argentina see their future with Luxembourg.

The Argentine-Luxembourgers Survey

BACKGROUND

In March of 2023, we ran an open survey of Argentine-Luxembourgish dual nationals through ancestry. **124** dual nationals participated representing a wide range of ages and demographics.

The following is the first systematic survey of the Argentine-Luxembourger dual nationals. In it, respondents provided answers to questions on their future in Luxembourg and motivations for applying for dual nationality. All respondents are non-clients who participated in an open survey of confirmed dual nationals through ancestry.

KEY FINDINGS

1. Over **70%** of the Argentine dual national survey respondents want to learn Luxembourgish.

2. The age bracket most interested in moving to Luxembourg or the EU is respondents aged **20-39**.

3. Most Argentines are established in their own country. **41%** have no plans to move to the EU, a number almost 3 times higher than for Brazil.

4. The Argentine respondents were **2.6** times more likely to express interest in moving to Luxembourg "sometime much later in life" than our American or Brazilian respondents.

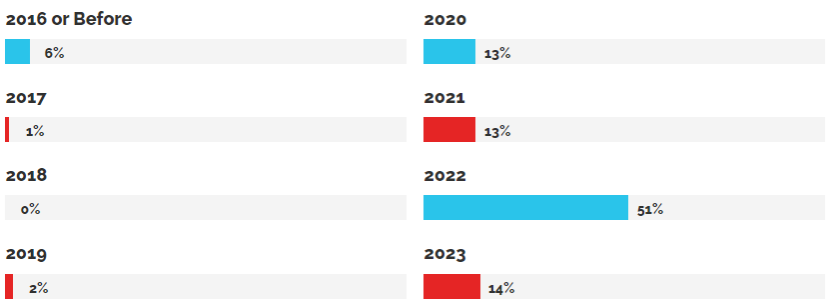
NATIONALITY STATUS

We asked the respondents about the basics of their Luxembourgish nationality.

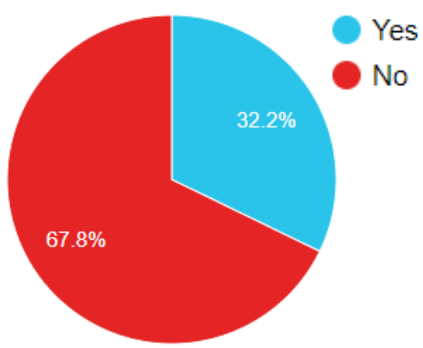
NATIONALITY STATUS: WHO ARE OUR RESPONDENTS?

100% of the respondents to our survey have already obtained Luxembourgish dual nationality. Furthermore, **32.2%** expressed that they have obtained a Luxembourgish passport.

Year Citizenship Was Received



Have Luxembourgish Passport



The Argentine-Luxembourgers Survey

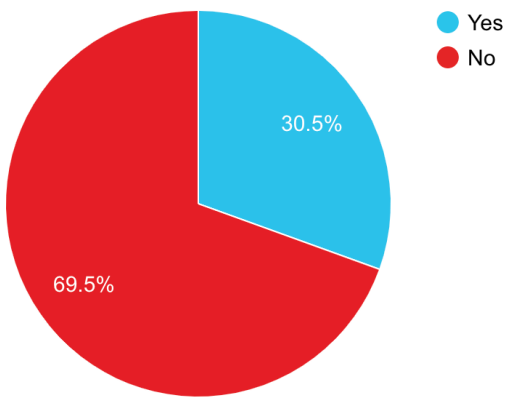
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

We asked the dual nationals about their experiences outside of Argentina.

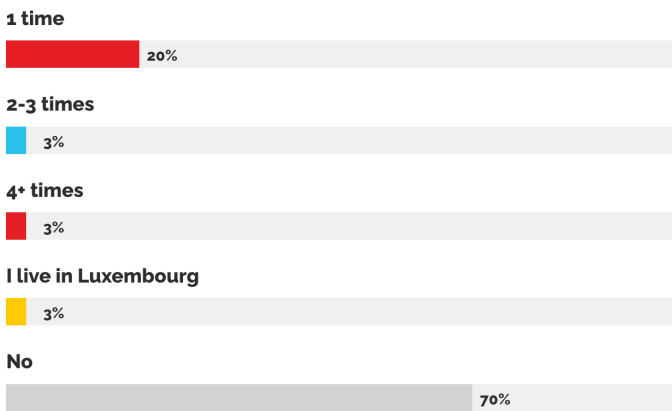
WHO HAS VISITED THE GRAND DUCHY?

While not all of our respondents had to travel to Luxembourg to complete their nationality applications, **30.5%** reported that they have visited Luxembourg in their lifetime. Of those who have visited Luxembourg, **10.2%** have visited 2 or more times (or live in the Grand-Duchy).

Traveled to Luxembourg



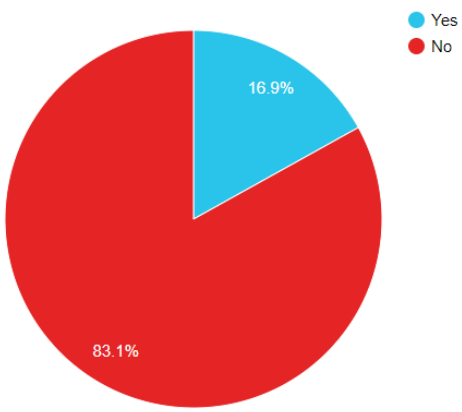
If yes, how many times?



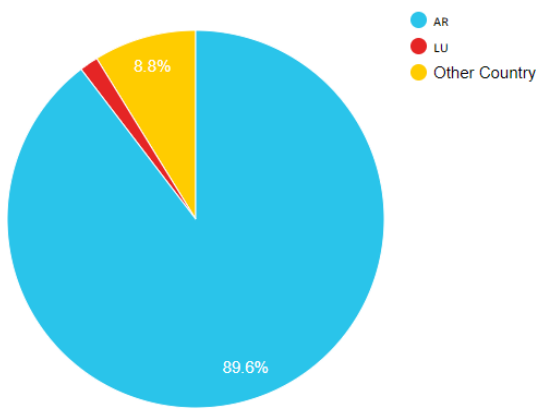
HAVE YOU LIVED OUTSIDE OF ARGENTINA?

Out of the surveyed individuals, **16.9%** mentioned they had prior experience living outside Argentina. This figure slightly exceeds half of the proportion of the Americans with experience living abroad and is still **10.6%** lower than the Brazilians as well.

Have You Lived Abroad?



Current Country of Residence?



The Argentine-Luxembourgers Survey

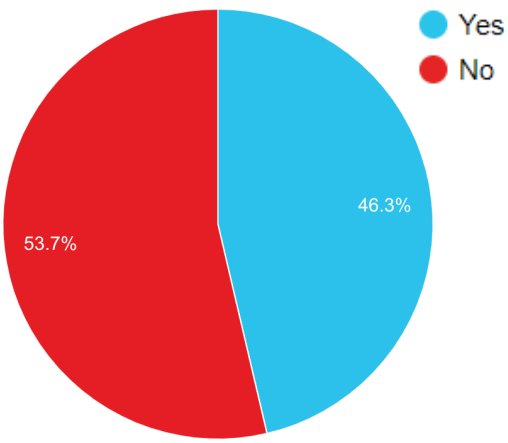
MULTILINGUALISM

Most people in Luxembourg speak 4-5 languages. How do the Argentine dual nationals compare?

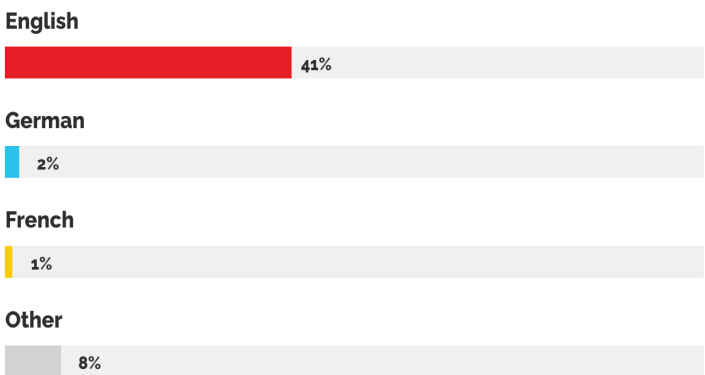
FOREIGN LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES

46.3% of the dual national respondents self-reported speaking a foreign language. The standard in the survey used for defining this was the "ability to fluidly use a language for the responsibilities of your work". We assess that this number, while reflecting the respondents' answers, may be over expressed.

Do You Speak a Foreign Language



Languages Spoken



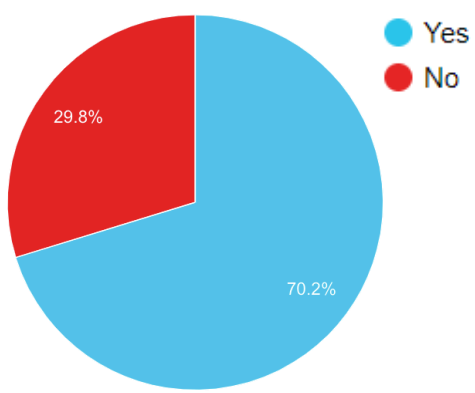
*Percentage of All Respondents Speaking Language, Possible to make multiple choices

While 46.3% of respondents speak at least one foreign language, 6.5% speak two foreign languages or more.

SCHWÄTZT DIR LËTZEBUERGESCH?

Around **70.2%** of the Argentine dual national applicants indicate being interested in learning Luxembourgish.

Interested in Learning Luxembourgish?



The Argentine-Luxembourgers Survey

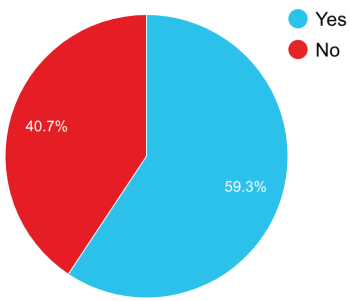
INTEREST IN MOVING

Do these new dual nationals plan to put their nationality to use? How do they see their future in Europe?

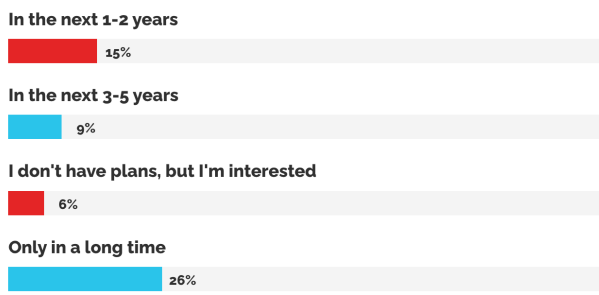
PACKING BAGS: ARE ARGENTINE-LUXEMBOURGERS HEADED TO THE EU?

59.3% of our dual national respondents expressed interest in moving to the EU. However, our research shows that just over half of those who expressed interest have no plans to move in the short term. Our motivations section indicates that many of the dual nationals hope to eventually work in Europe.

Want to Move to the EU?



When



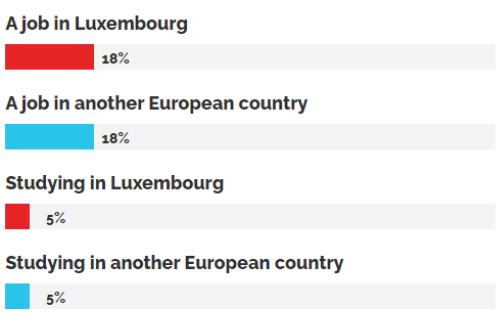
APPLICANT MOTIVATIONS

What drove these Argentines to apply for Luxembourgish dual nationality?

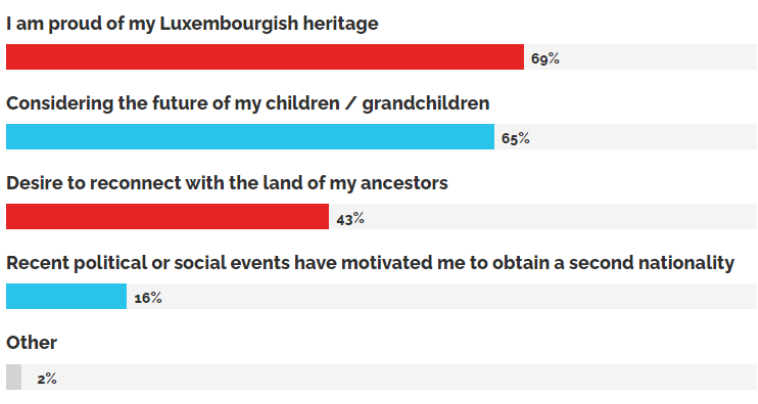
DUAL NATIONALITY MOTIVATIONS

Our Argentine dual national respondents indicate that they pursued Luxembourgish dual nationality to honor their heritage and to provide themselves and their families more opportunities in the future.

Potential Interests



Main Motivations for Applying for Luxembourgish Nationality



**Respondents could make multiple choices and the percentage is based on the number of respondents that answered each question.*

FINAL REPORT: WHO ARE THE LUXEMBOURGERS IN THE AMERICAS?

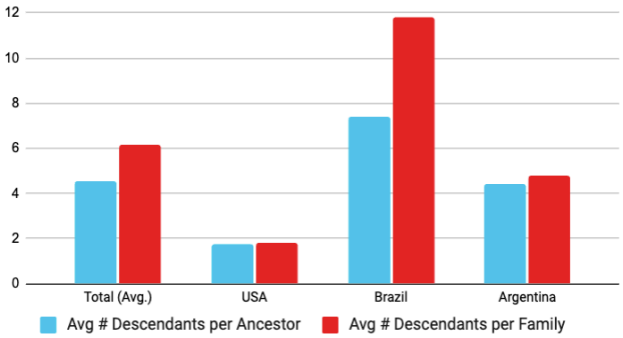
We compare and contrast the data from our survey of the Luxembourgish dual nationals through ancestry in the US, Brazil, and Argentina.

Ancestors

It is worth noting that the basis of obtaining Luxembourgish nationality for all the survey respondents was through a Luxembourgish ancestor who eventually emigrated to one of the three countries in question: Argentina, Brazil and the United States. Because this study is focused on today's dual nationals, we will not go into detail here about the data we have researched about their ancestors. That information is available via our website: https://www.luxcitizenship.com/research.

However, it is pertinent to reiterate that within our dataset, we identified a total of 333 Luxembourgish ancestors for 1,174 dual national survey respondents. Specifically, for the cohort of 416 Americans, we successfully traced 225 Luxembourgish ancestors. Similarly, among the 124 Argentines, 28 Luxembourgish ancestors, and for the 634 Brazilians, 80 Luxembourgish ancestors were identified.

DESCENDENTS PER ANCESTOR BY POPULATION

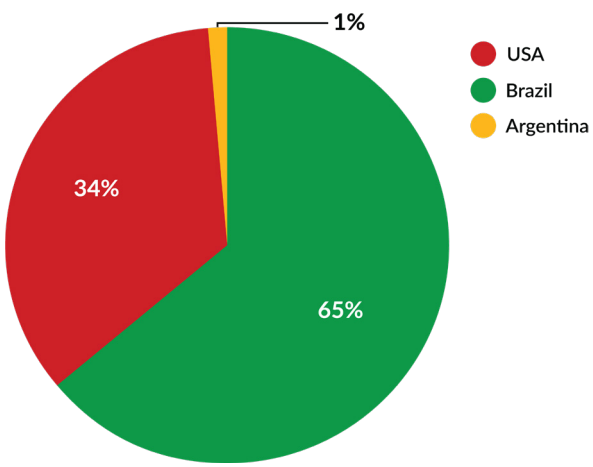


The average number of descendants per ancestor by population is telling. For the Americans, the number is 1.7, while for Brazil it is 7.4. In fact, 98 Brazilian descendants of Luxembourger Nicolas Bley took our survey alone. This suggests a practice in Brazil wherein multiple family members engage in the nationality application process. Consequently, this phenomenon provides a plausible explanation for our anecdotal observation that Brazilian dual nationals exhibit a more interconnected and closely-knit community compared to their North American counterparts.

Big Picture

According to the National Registry of Physical Persons, the June 30th, 2023 population of 41,337 Luxembourgers living in these three countries in the Americas, includes 483 Luxembourgish nationals living in Argentina (1%), 26,743 in Brazil (65%), and 14,471 in the US (34%).

LUXEMBOURGISH NATIONALS
BY POPULATION (THE AMERICAS)



Based on the data modeled in our survey and public data[1], we estimate that as of 30 June 2023, there were approximately 26,884 adult Luxembourgish dual nationals through ancestry living in these three countries. That means that approximately 4.4% of that population participated in our study.

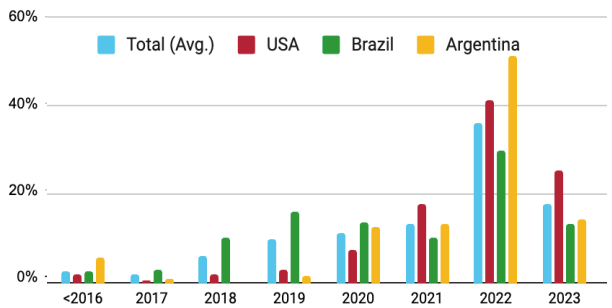
[1] Based on LuxCitizenship's own research, approximately 32% of Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry in the US and Brazil are minor children. We have applied this metric to all three countries. The number of Luxembourgers living abroad was not archived before 2018, so it's impossible to know how many native-born Luxembourgers were living in these countries before the introduction of dual nationality in 2008. However, using the Ministry of Justice's statistics on nationality procedures we have made a conservative estimate of approximately 1,900 native born Luxembourgers living in the USA and 1,200 in Brazil. Most likely, these numbers are still much lower.

Nationality

The most common year that these dual nationals received proof of their Luxembourgish nationality was 2022, with 36.2% of respondents receiving their proof of nationality in this calendar year alone.

Our results also show that of the three countries studied, the Brazilian-Luxembourgers were the earliest to begin receiving proof of Luxembourgish nationality on average. While 10.4% of our Brazilian-Luxembourger respondents obtained proof of Luxembourgish nationality in 2018, the Argentine-Luxembourgers did not meet or surpass this same percentage until 2020, and the American-Luxembourgers did so in 2021.

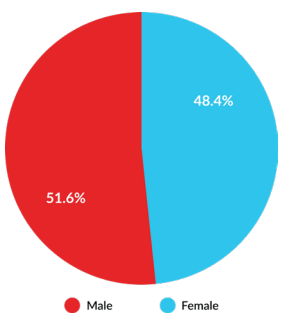
RESPONDENT YEAR NATIONALITY OBTAINED



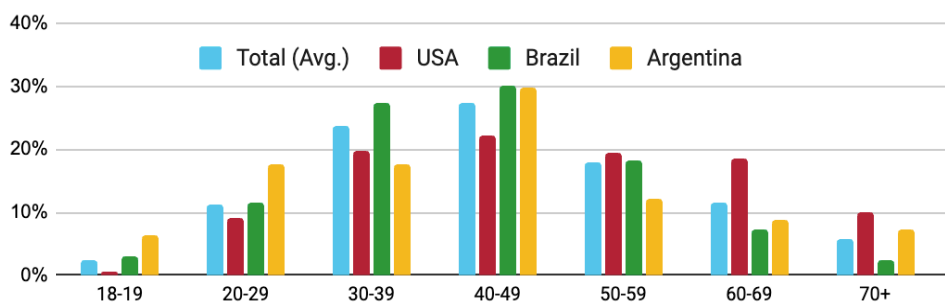
Respondent Demographics

Largely in line with World Sex Ratio[1] published in 2021, our study was made up of slightly more male respondents than female respondents. Approximately 70% of the respondents in our study fell within the age range of 30 to 59 years, underscoring the predominantly middle-aged nature of the population under investigation.

RESPONDENT GENDER

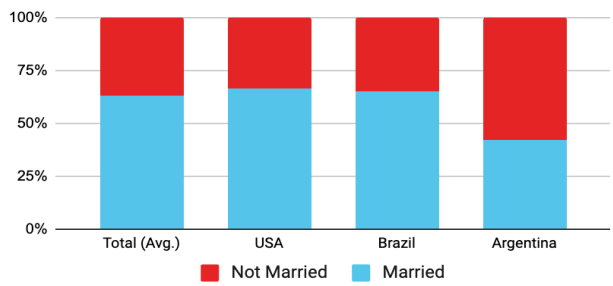


RESPONDENT AGE RANGES BY POPULATION

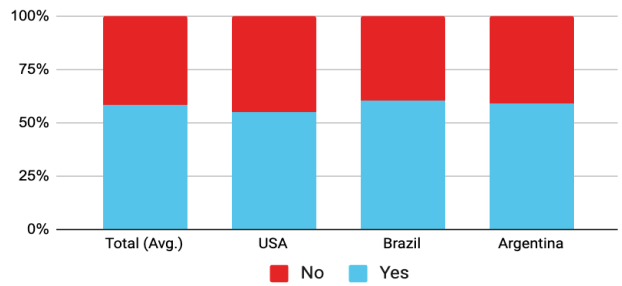


Among all respondents, 63% reported being married, while 58% indicated that they had children. It is noteworthy that the percentage of respondents with children remained fairly consistent across all three countries. However, there were notable differences in marital status, with only 42% of Argentine respondents reporting being married, compared to 65% of Brazilians and 67% of Americans.

% OF RESPONDENTS MARRIED



% OF RESPONDENTS WITH CHILDREN

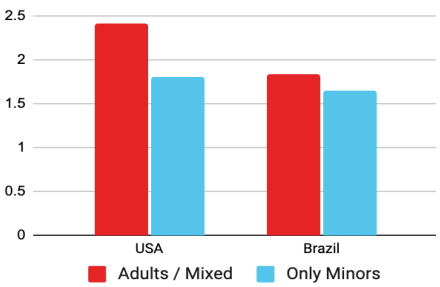


[1] "Gender Ratio in the World." Statistics Times, www.statisticstimes.com/demographics/world-sex-ratio.php.

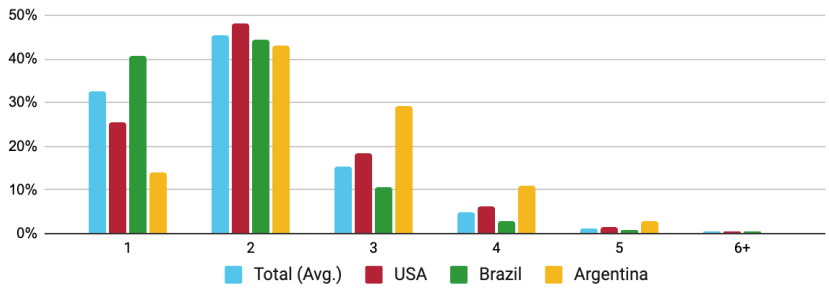
The 684 respondents with children reported a total of 1,306 children, for an average of 1.91 children per respondent. The Argentines reported the highest average number of children per respondent (2.46). In contrast, Brazilian respondents had the lowest average per respondent (1.81).

We also gathered information regarding the age distribution of the respondents' children from American and Brazilian respondents. Averaged out, 50% of respondent's children were adults and 50% were minors. Additionally, 25% of these respondents have only minor children. Respondents reporting having only minor children had on average 1.75 children while respondents with adult children or a mixture of minor and adult children reported 2.13 children on average, indicating a declining birth rate among younger respondents.

AVG. CHILDREN PER RESPONDENT
ADULTS VS MINORS



OF CHILDREN PER RESPONDENT
BY POPULATION

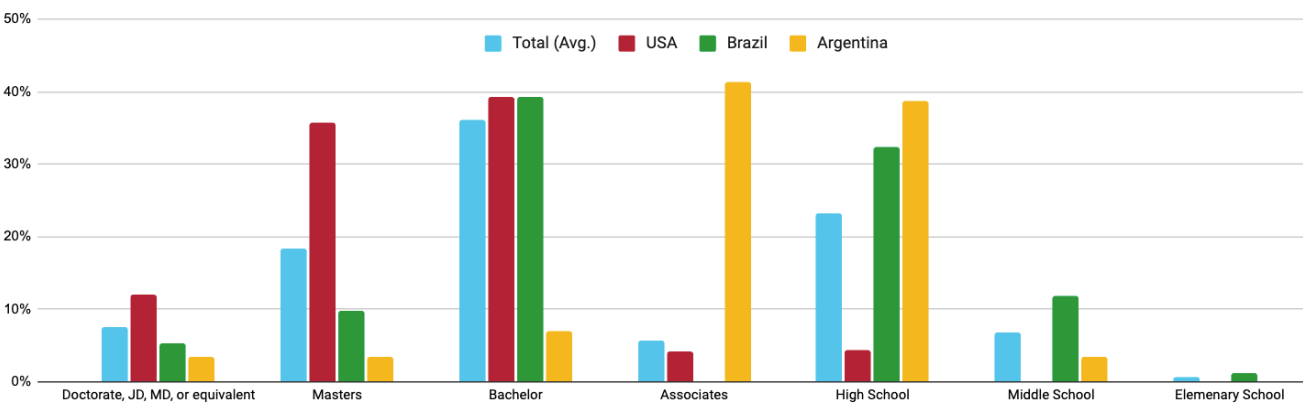


EDUCATION & CAREER

Education

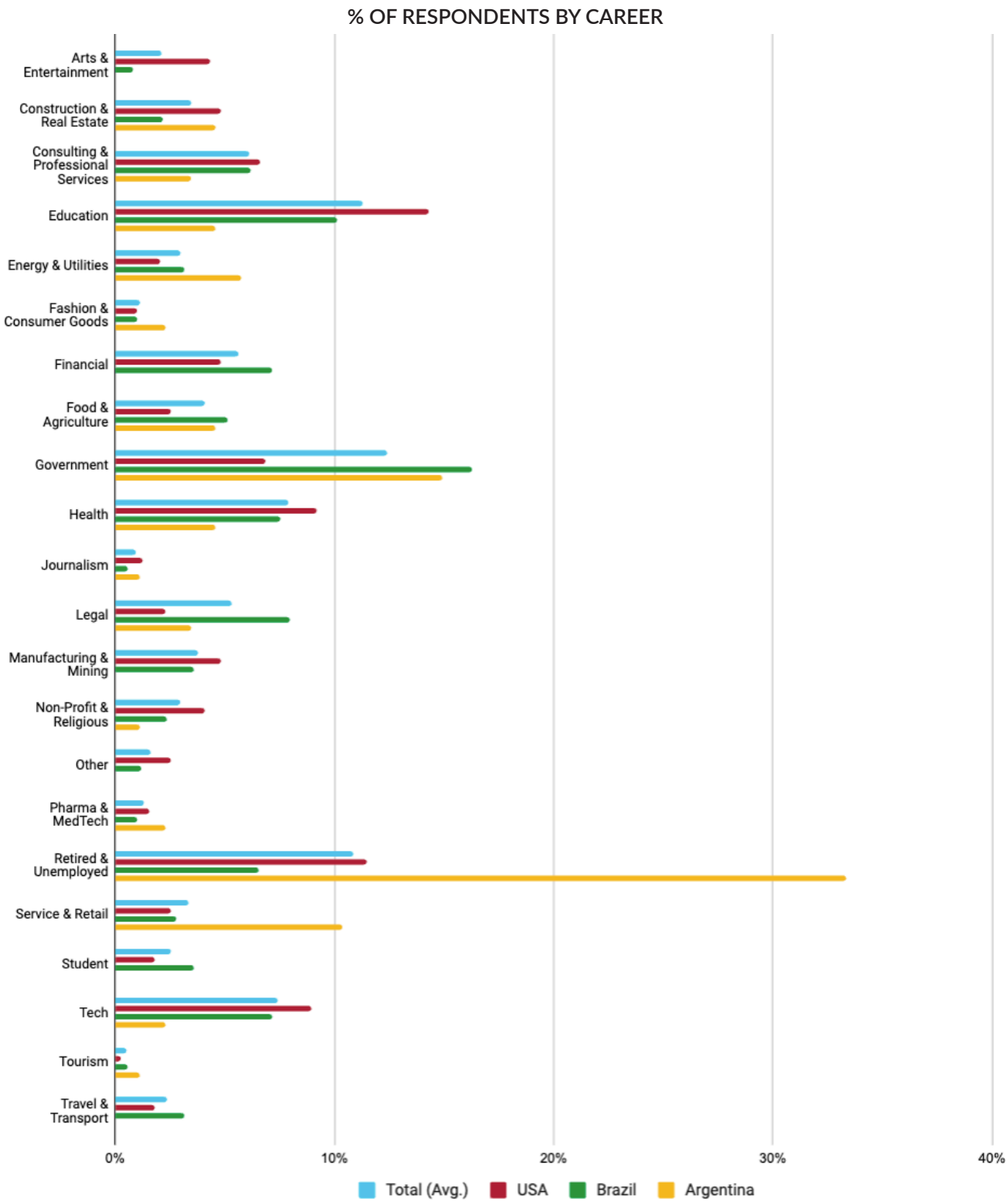
Across all three countries included in our study, 68% of respondents reported pursuing education beyond high school. 26% of respondents stated that a Master's or Doctorate degree was their highest level of achieved education. Across the three populations, we estimate that there are at least 4,920 dual nationals with master's degrees, and an additional 2,016 dual nationals who have a Doctorate, (including J.D., M.D., or equivalent).

% OF RESPONDENTS BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ACHIEVED



CAREER

It is evident that from results of our study, the Luxembourgish dual nationals appear to have established careers in a wide variety of sectors, with career fields largely varying from country to country.



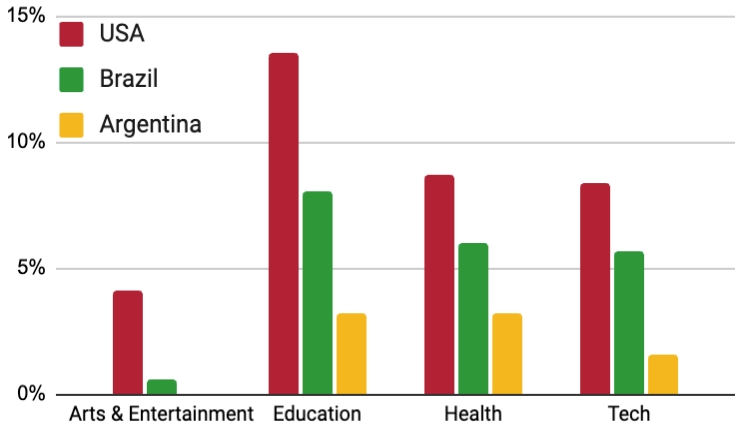
Career

The top career industries among the American respondents were Education (13.5%), Health (8.7%), and Technology/IT (8.4%), which accounts for 30.5% of our respondents, or an estimated 2,650 Luxembourgish dual nationals in the United States alone. Notably, the American respondents stood out among the whole populations for working in positions related to Arts & Entertainment (i.e., film industry) and Education by a wide margin.

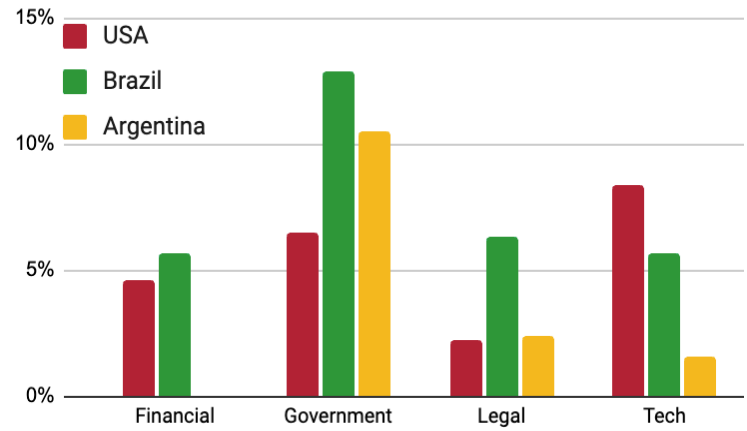
Among the three populations, the Brazilian respondents were the most likely to work as civil servants or lawyers (or otherwise in law enforcement/justice). These two career fields alone make up 19.2% of all respondents (or an estimated 3,429 dual national adults across the entire Brazilian-Luxembourger population). Other notable industries include Finance and Technology/IT. Notably, the Brazilians had the lowest rates of Retired & Unemployed respondents across the study.

Lastly, a higher percentage of Argentine respondents work in Energy & Utilities and Retail/Food Service sector than the American and Brazilian respondents combined, representing 16% of the respondents. A significant portion of this population also works in Government positions, much like the Brazilian respondents.

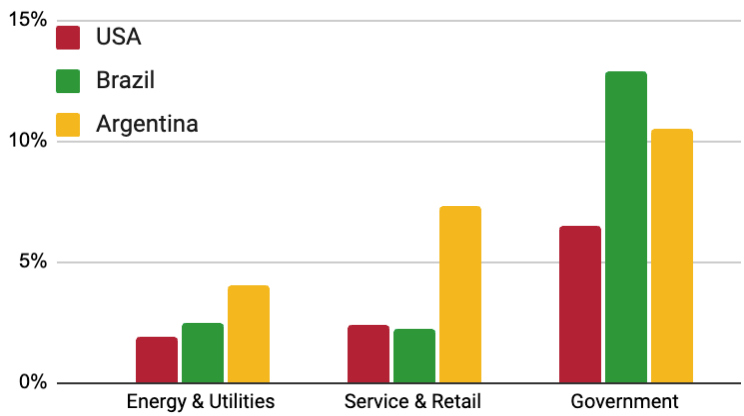
TOP CAREERS: AMERICAN RESPONDENTS (COMPARATIVE)



TOP CAREERS: BRAZILIAN RESPONDENTS (COMPARATIVE)



TOP CAREERS: ARGENTINE RESPONDENTS (COMPARATIVE)



Overall, the Luxembourgish dual nationals hold careers in a wide variety of industries and an extremely diverse set of titles. Looking beyond industry and rather at actual job functions, the most common were Business Functions (sales, marketing, etc.), Management, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics roles), Lawyers or Law Enforcement Agents, and Educators, making up 52.7% of all respondents.

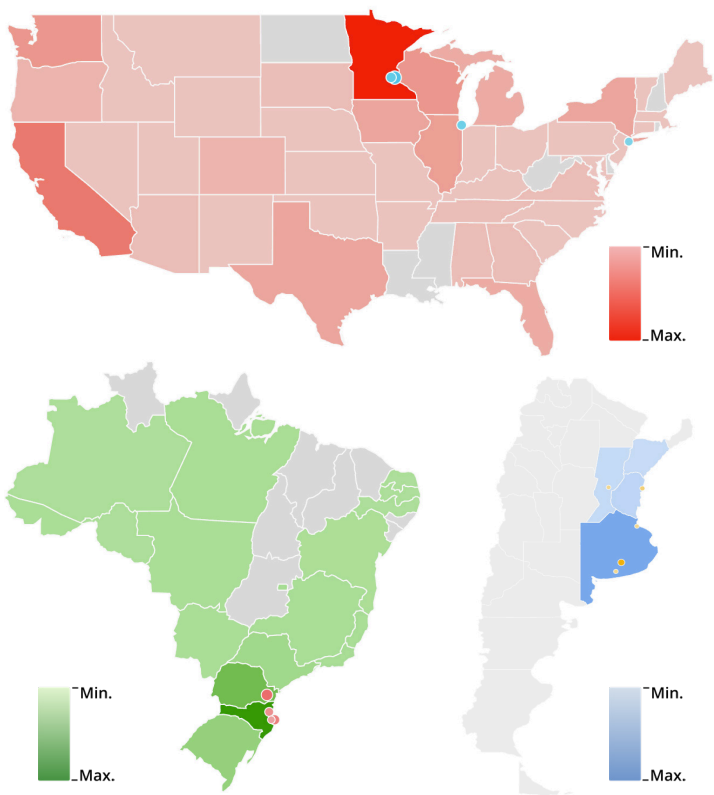
Geographic Location

Upon analyzing the respondents' places of residence, it became clear that there are several hotspots in all three countries where a notable number of Luxembourgish dual nationals live today.

While our American respondents live in 41 of the United States' 50 states, 50.9% of respondents live in the states Minnesota (17.3%), California (11.3%), Illinois (10.1%), Wisconsin (6.7%), and Colorado (5.5%) alone. There are significant American-Luxembourger populations based in the top 3 states, being the Twin Cities Metro Area in Minnesota (10.1% of respondents, or an estimated 1,425 dual nationals), Greater Chicagoland, Illinois (6.0% of respondents, or an estimated 847 dual nationals), and Los Angeles / San Francisco, California (5.3% of respondents, or an estimated 748 dual nationals).

Notably, three of the top states accounting together for 34.1% of our respondents fall within the consular jurisdiction of Washington, DC, while California and Colorado, accounting for 16.8% of these respondents, fall within the jurisdiction of the Consulate General in San Francisco. None of these top 5 states fall within the jurisdiction of the Consulate General in New York.

In Brazil, the concentration of Brazilian-Luxembourgers communities is even greater. Our Brazilian-Luxembourger respondents live in 18 of Brazil's 26 states, with an incredible 65.3% of respondents living in the states of Santa Catarina (44.2%) and Paraná (21.1%) alone. The cities where we located the most Brazilian respondents are Greater Florianópolis, Santa Catarina (making up 16.3% of respondents, or an estimated 4,359 dual nationals) and Greater Curitiba, Paraná (an additional 15.8% of respondents, or an estimated 4,225 dual nationals). Interestingly, Santa Catarina has always been the state with the largest number of Luxembourgers since the time of Brazilian immigration of our respondents' ancestors, with 63.6% of ancestors immigrating to this same state.



Lastly, of Argentina's 23 provinces, our Argentine respondents reside across 13 of them. Of the three countries studied, the Argentines were the most concentrated in particular geographies, with an incredible 79.8% of respondents living in the provinces of Buenos Aires (36.3%), Santa Fe (29.0%), and Entre Rios (14.5%). While the percentage of respondents living in the province of Buenos Aires is largely reflective of the Argentine population as a whole, this population's presence in the provinces of Santa Fe and Entre Rios greatly surpasses the percentage of the Argentine population that resides in these provinces in Argentina.

Personal Migration

When combined, 99% of respondents across all three populations were born in their home country. This percentage was generally consistent across all three populations individually, with the American respondents being the most likely to be born abroad (2.6% of respondents).

In addition to analyzing the respondents' location of birth, we studied their migration patterns both nationally and internationally. On a national level, an average of 33.6% of respondents across all three countries no longer live in their state or province of birth. The only population to come in above this average were the U.S., with an incredible 52.4% of respondents no longer living in their state of birth.

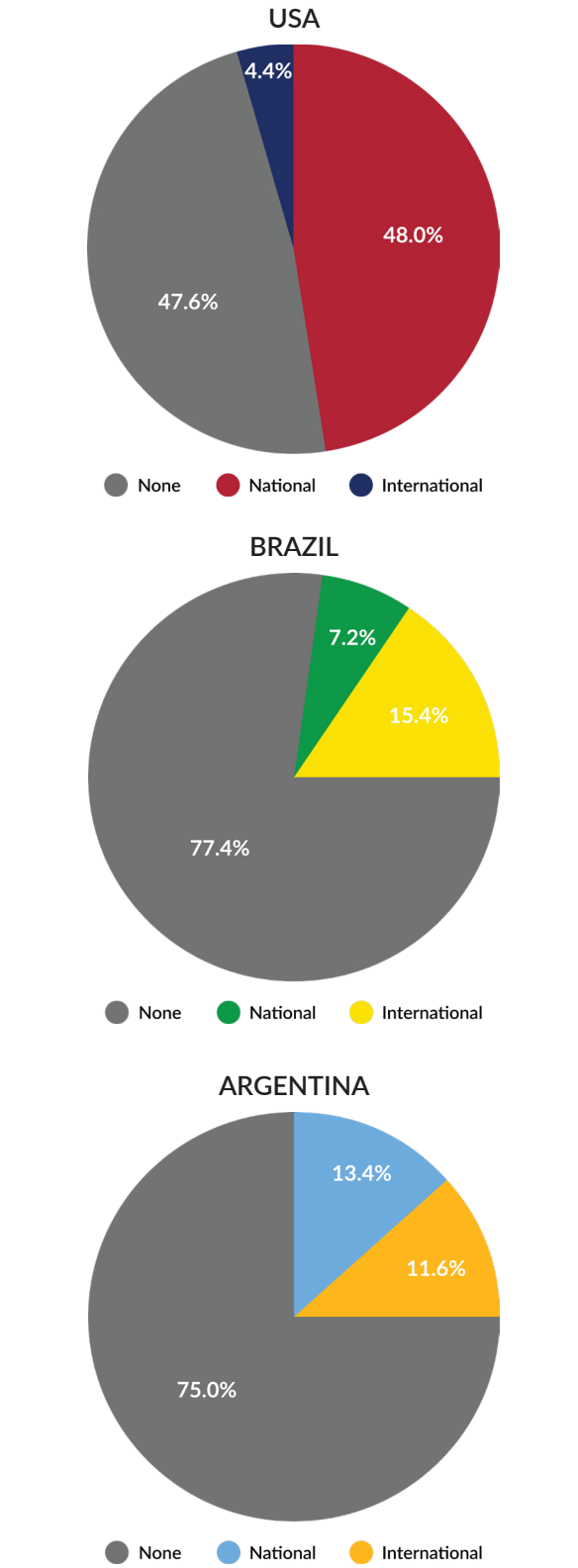
Total migration levels among the South American respondents were much more similar, with 25% of Argentine and 22.6% of Brazilian respondents currently living in a different state, province, or country than where they were born.

When it comes to international migration, an average of 10% of respondents reported that they currently live abroad. When broken down by population, the Brazilians were most likely to live abroad (15.4% of respondents), followed by the Argentine (11.6%), and the American respondents being the least likely to live abroad (4.4%).

Interestingly, the population with the highest level of national migration had by far the lowest level of international migration, and vice versa. This leads us to believe that American-Luxembourgers are much more likely to move within the United States, while the Brazilian and Argentine-Luxembourgers are more likely to immigrate abroad.

Based on this, we estimate that this means there are approximately 2,892 adult Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living outside their home country. The Brazilian-Luxembourgers alone make up for 86% of this estimated population.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TENDENCIES BY POPULATION



Nationality & Passports

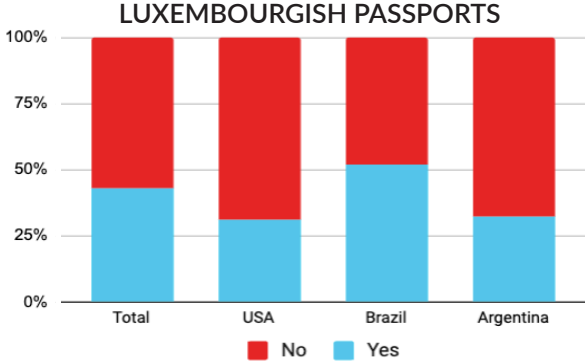
All survey participants self-identified as having already obtained Luxembourgish nationality. Despite Luxembourg having the legal possibility of dual nationality since 2008, 67% (783) of the survey respondents indicated that they obtained dual nationality in the last three years alone.

This is higher than the real growth in Luxembourgers living in the three countries over the last three years, which public data[1] indicates represent 56% of the total Luxembourgers living in these countries.

Across the three countries, a total of 43% of our study's respondents indicated that they currently hold a valid Luxembourgish passport. Based on the modeling from this survey, we would estimate then that approximately 12,035 adult dual nationals have obtained passports. Their proportions are somewhat dissimilar, 31% of the Americans, 52% of the Brazilians, and only 15% of the Argentines report having a passport.

56% of passport holders applied in their home country, 35% in Luxembourg City, and 9% in another consular office such as Madrid or Lisbon.

RESPONDENTS WITH LUXEMBOURGISH PASSPORTS



LOCATION OF PASSPORT APPLICATION

	TOTAL (Avg.)	USA	BRAZIL	ARGENTINA
Luxembourg	35.0%	43.2%	32.3%	26.3%
Brasilia	43.2%	0.0%	62.2%	0.0%
Washington D.C.	7.8%	28.8%	0.3%	0.0%
San Francisco	3.4%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
New York	2.3%	7.2%	0.6%	0.0%
Buenos Aires	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	31.6%
Other	7.0%	8.0%	4.6%	42.1%

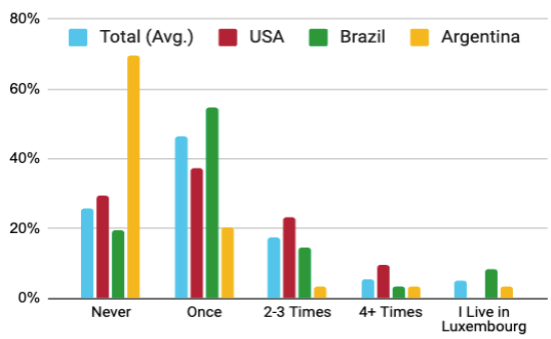
Presence in Luxembourg

Across the three populations, 74% of all respondents have traveled to Luxembourg at least once, with 23% of all respondents having visited two or more times and 5% currently living in Luxembourg. The remaining 26% have never been physically present in Luxembourg.

This statistic may seem surprising considering the Luxembourgish National Act requires all applications for Luxembourgish nationality to occur inside Luxembourg.

A higher portion of Brazilian respondents (81%) indicated having visited Luxembourg than the Americans (70%) or Argentines (31%). On the other hand, the Americans were the most likely to have made return visits (33%). The percentage of respondents currently residing in Luxembourg is mainly driven by the Brazilians, with 8.4% of them currently living there, while compared to 1.6% of Argentines and 0.2% of Americans.

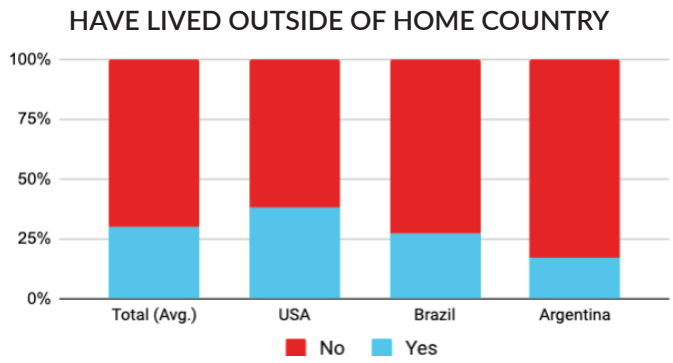
OF VISITS TO LUXEMBOURG



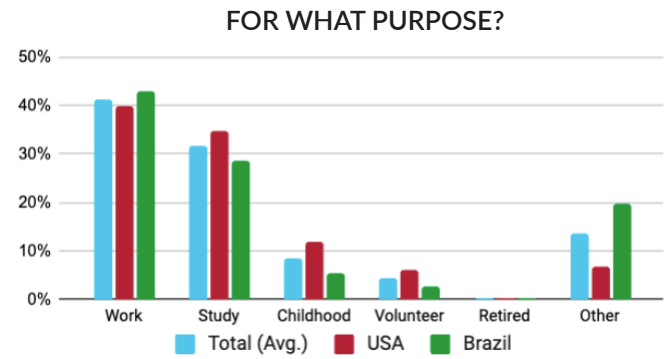
[1] "Registre National Des Personnes Physiques RNPP."

Living Abroad

The Luxembourgish dual nationals are an overall mobile group. 10% of respondents live abroad today, while 30% of these same respondents reported having already lived abroad at some point in their lives. This means that an estimated 8,356 adult dual nationals through ancestry have lived outside their country of birth at some point during their lifetimes.



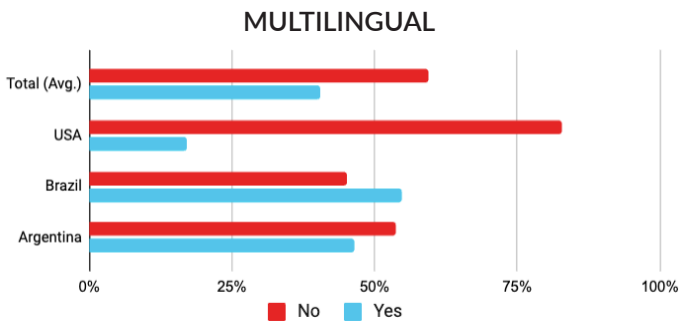
Interestingly, Brazilian respondents were much more likely to live abroad for work than American respondents who primarily lived abroad while studying. Overall, 17% of the Brazilian and American respondents (or an estimated 4,559 adults) stated that they worked abroad, while 13% (3,413 adults) have studied abroad.



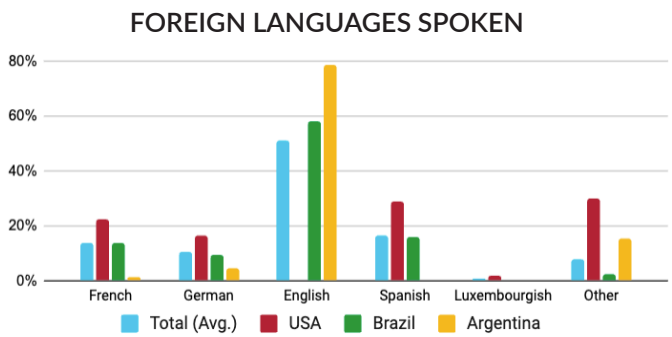
Language

A notable percentage of the population self-identified as fluently speaking one or more foreign language(s). Within our survey, we defined fluency as the "ability to fluidly use a language for the responsibilities of your work".

Approximately 42.3% of respondents, equivalent to 11,372 adult dual nationals, reported fluency in at least one foreign language. Notably, this percentage was significantly higher among Brazilian (55%) and Argentine (46%) respondents, with American respondents falling below the overall average (17%).



English was overwhelmingly the most common foreign language spoken by the South American respondents, while the American respondents had the highest portions speaking French and German. Based on the survey, we estimate that about 3,731 adult dual nationals speak one or more of Luxembourg's official languages (French, German and/or Luxembourgish).

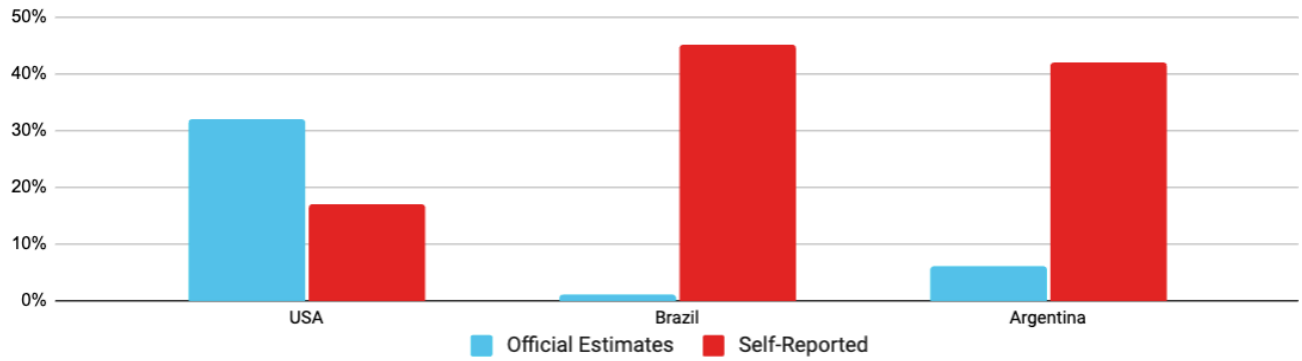


Some respondents also indicated speaking multiple languages, including 18% of Brazilian, 6% of Argentine, and 4% of American respondents.

We have reason to believe however that respondents inflated the self-assessment of their foreign language fluency. For example, 45% of our Brazilian respondents indicated that they speak English fluently, while a recent study carried out by the British Council[1] determined that only 1% of the entire Brazilian population meets this criterion. While we still expect that the Luxembourgish dual nationals surpass their country's average, we also feel confident that these numbers are notably inflated in comparison to each country's population as a whole. In contrast, 17.1% of the American-Luxembourger respondents reported speaking a foreign language fluently, while 32% of Americans reported speaking more than one language on the US census[2].

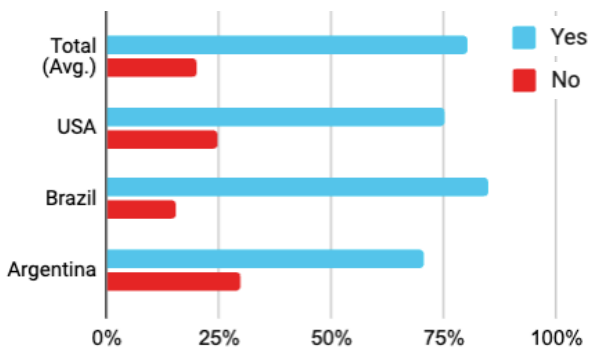
OFFICIAL VS SELF REPORTED MULTILINGUAL ESTIMATES

Brazil and Argentina numbers are based on English fluency. USA numbers based on fluency in any foreign language.



While there may be doubts about fluency, what is clear is a serious interest in learning the Luxembourgish language. An average of 79% of respondents expressed interest in learning Luxembourgish. Broken down, this could mean an estimated 6,473 (74.5%) of American-, 15,072 (84.4%) of Brazilian-, and 232 (68.5%) of Argentine-Luxembourgers are interested in learning Luxembourgish. These numbers do not include the minor children, which are also a key opportunity area.

INTEREST IN LEARNING LUXEMBOURGISH



It is important to keep in mind that across all three populations, levels of interest to learn Luxembourgish are higher than the expressed interest to move to Luxembourg. The Brazilian respondents expressed both the highest levels of interest in learning Luxembourgish, as well as in moving to Luxembourg one day. In contrast, while the American respondents expressed the second highest levels of interest to learn Luxembourgish, they were the population that expressed the lowest level of interest in moving to Luxembourg. With this in mind, we expect that the Brazilian-Luxembourgers are primarily motivated to learn Luxembourgish to move to Luxembourg, while the American-Luxembourgers are primarily driven by their pride in their heritage.

[1] "Marques, Daniele. "Brasil Tem 1% Da População Fluente Em Inglês." Educa+Brasil, www.educamaisbrasil.com.br/educacao/noticias/brasil-tem-1-da-populacao-fluente-em-ingles.

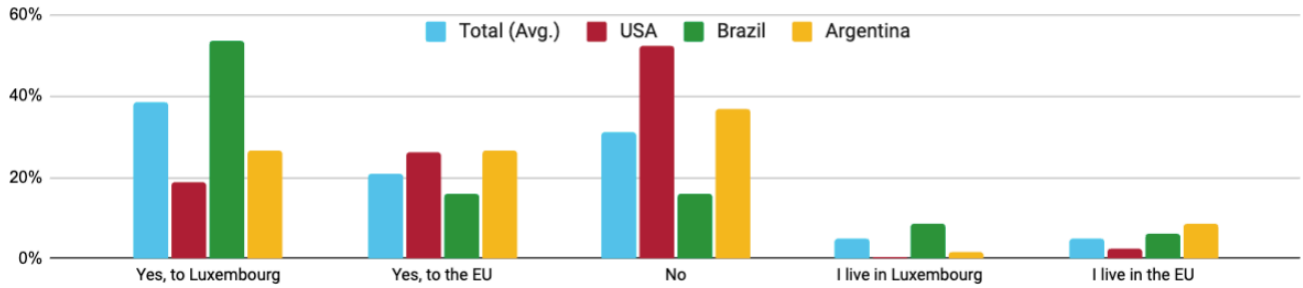
[2] United States Census Bureau. "Language Use in the United States: 2019." United States Census Bureau, www.census.gov/library/publications/2022/acs/acs-50.html.

Where?

A clear majority of the dual nationals, 57% (or 670 respondents), are interested in moving to Luxembourg or elsewhere in Europe. When examining the Luxembourgish dual national population as a whole, we predict that there are currently 9,973 adult dual nationals through ancestry interested in moving to Luxembourg, with another 5,377 that wish to move to another country in the European Union.

Notably, the Brazilian respondents were the most likely to live in Luxembourg or the most interested to move there. Our data proves that the Brazilian-Luxembourgers are the most geographically concentrated population and were the least likely to have moved within their country during their lifetime. Therefore, we believe that the previously-mentioned close family and social networks relaying information from the 894 Luxembourgish dual nationals from Brazil who have already moved to Luxembourg are undoubtedly having an impact on their compatriots' desires and plans to move to Luxembourg.

INTERESTED IN MOVING TO LUXEMBOURG / THE EU?

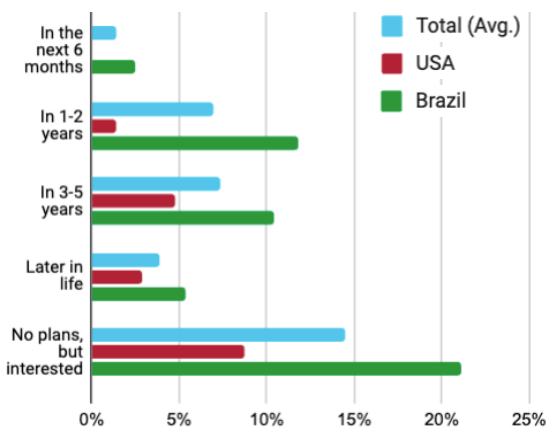


Of the respondents that expressed an interest in moving to another European country, there are a few countries that stand out as their top picks. The Brazilian respondents' top choices were Portugal (5 % of all respondents), followed by a tie for second place between France and Spain (2% each). Among the American respondents, the top country was France (7%), followed by a tie for second place between Portugal and Germany (4% each). The American respondents were the most likely to list other countries across Europe as well.

When?

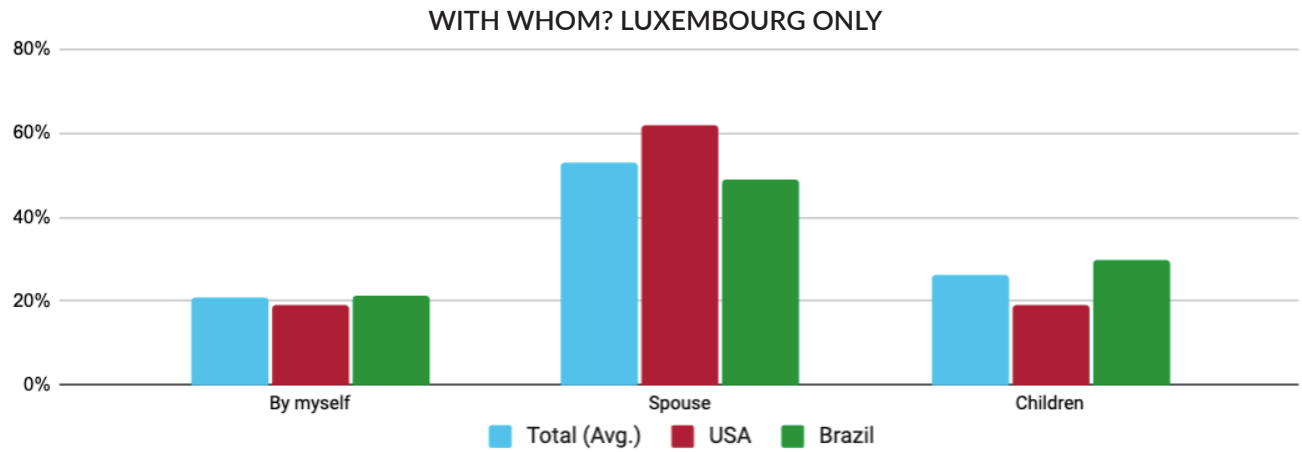
Respondents who indicated an interest in moving abroad but who currently live in their home country were shown questions related to their timeline for moving abroad.

WHEN? LUXEMBOURG ONLY



Averaged out, 15.6% of all American and Brazilian respondents expressed interest in moving to Luxembourg in the next 5 years, with 1.4% of all respondents planning to move in the next 6 months alone. When looking at the entire adult population, we estimate that there are about 4,429 Brazilian and 543 American-Luxembourger adults who are interested in moving to Luxembourg in the next 5 years. That established, desire to move and the actual action are not one in the same.

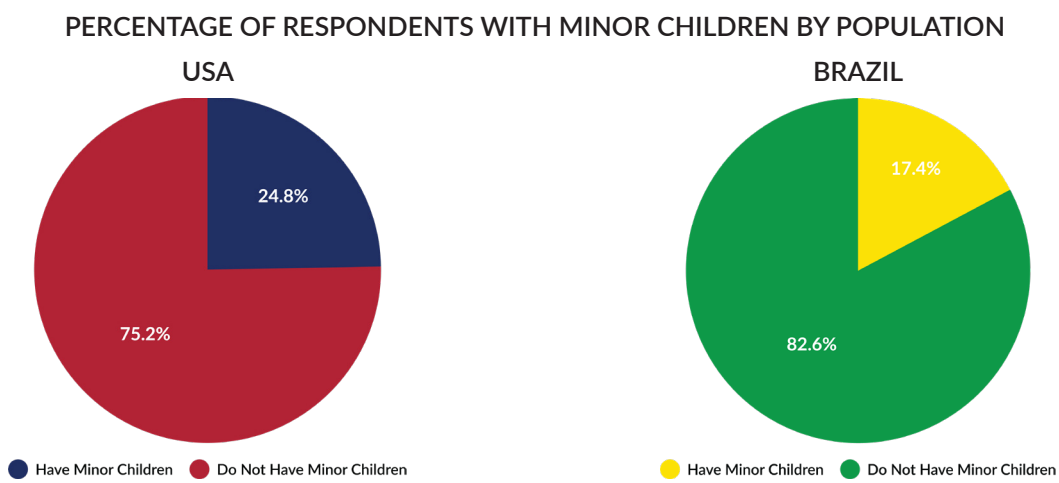
A major difference between the American and Brazilian respondents surveyed is with whom they plan to move to Luxembourg. Of respondents that indicated that they are interested in moving to Luxembourg, 61.7% of American respondents indicated that they would make the move with their spouse, 19.1% with their children, and 19.1% by themselves. In contrast, only 48.8% of Brazilian respondents who expressed an interest in moving to Luxembourg stated that they would make the move with their spouse. Many more would make the move with their children (29.9%) and 21.4% would go by themselves.



Plan of Young Families

Given the unique integration needs of families with young children who would attend Luxembourg's school system, we made particular analysis of respondents with minor children planning to move to Luxembourg in the next five years.

Of our 1,050 adult American and Brazilian-Luxembourgers respondents, 103 American-Luxembourgers and 110 Brazilian-Luxembourgers (for a total of 213 dual nationals, or 20.3% of respondents), have minor children. When analyzing this population of dual nationals as a whole, we estimate that there are about 5,262 adult dual nationals who fit this demographic, 3,107 being Brazilian-Luxembourgers (17.4% of the total estimated adult population), and 2,155 being American-Luxembourgers (24.8% of the total estimated adult population).



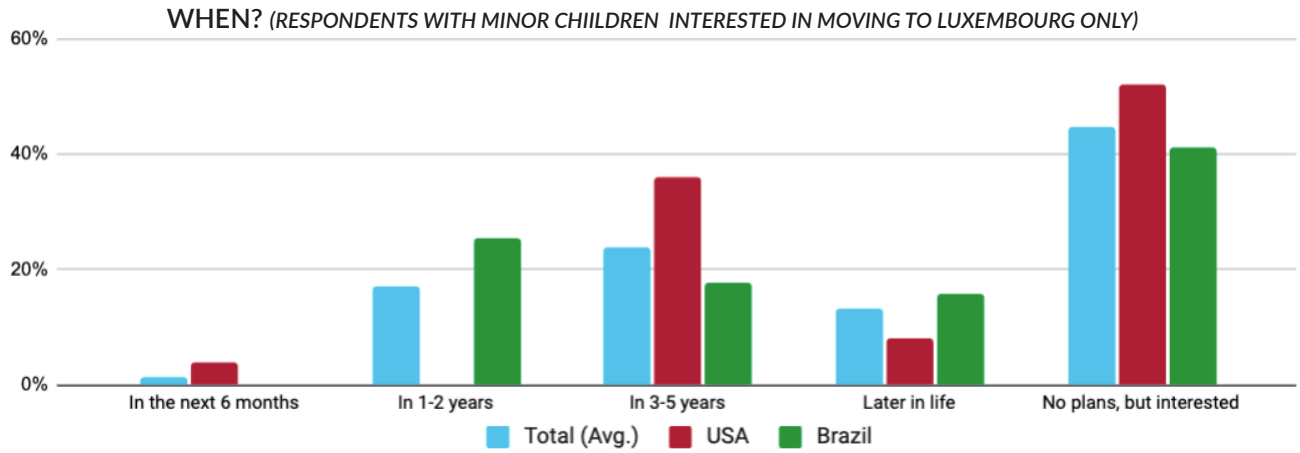
Time Frame

Interestingly enough, while 93.4% (199) of the respondents included in this specific demographic stated that one of their primary motivations for applying for Luxembourgish nationality was "considering the future for their children / grandchildren", only 42.1% (90) of these same respondents plan to move to Luxembourg in the next 5 years. This suggests that many of these young families do not plan to move to Luxembourg in the near future, but were motivated to apply for Luxembourgish nationality for the benefits of their children once they are older.

Further analyzing the plans to move to Luxembourg, it becomes apparent moving to Luxembourg in the immediate future is much more top of mind among the Brazilian respondents than the American respondents.

Of the 25 American respondents who have minor children and are interested in moving to Luxembourg, only 4% indicated that they plan to move in the next two years. An additional 36% wish to move in the next 3-5 years, 8% indicated that their move would only happen later in life, and 52% stated that they have no set plans, but are interested in moving to Luxembourg. When looking at the American-Luxembourger population as a whole, we estimate that there are about 209 dual nationals with minor children who are planning to move to Luxembourg in the next 5 years. Knowing that they have an average of 2.04 children per respondent, this could mean up to an additional 426 children making the move with their parents, for a grand total of 635 American-Luxembourger dual nationals.

The short-term plans to move to Luxembourg among this population of Brazilian-Luxembourgers is slightly higher. Of the 51 Brazilian-Luxembourger respondents with minor children who expressed interest in moving to Luxembourg, 25.5% expressed that they wish to move in the next 2 years, while an additional 17.6% wish to move in the next 3-5 years. When it comes to longer term plans, 15.7% indicated that their move would only happen later in life, and 41.2% stated that they have no set plans, but are interested in moving to Luxembourg. When looking at the Brazilian-Luxembourgers as a whole, we estimate that this means there are about 620 adult dual nationals with minor children looking to move to Luxembourg in the next 5 years. With an average of 1.73 children per respondent, we estimate that this could mean an additional 1,073 children that could move to Luxembourg with their parents, for a grand total of 1,693 Brazilian-Luxembourger dual nationals.

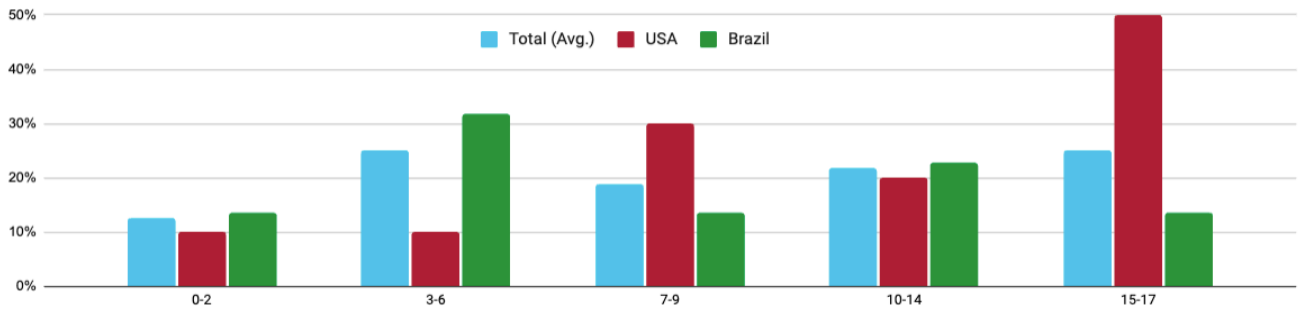


When looking at these young families with plans to move to Luxembourg in the next 5 years, we estimate that there are 620 adult Brazilian-Luxembourgers and 209 adult American-Luxembourgers across the Luxembourgish dual national population as a whole who fit this demographic. With an average of 1.09 minor children per respondent in this population, we also estimate that an additional 904 minor children would make the move with their parents, for a total of 1,733 American and Brazilian-Luxembourgers.

There is also an interesting discrepancy between the age ranges of the children of these respondents by population. When looking at the average age range overall, the highest majority of respondents who wish to move to Luxembourg in the next 5 years have children between the ages of 10 and 17, accounting for 56.9% of the population. That being said, when broken down by population, Brazilian-Luxembourgers tend to have much younger children when considering their move (between the ages of 0 and 9), while the American-Luxembourgers tend to lean towards moving when their children are between the ages of 10 and 17.

% OF RESONDENTS WITH MINOR CHILDREN IN EACH AGE RANGE

Only based on respondents who expressed interest in moving to Luxembourg in the next 5 years.



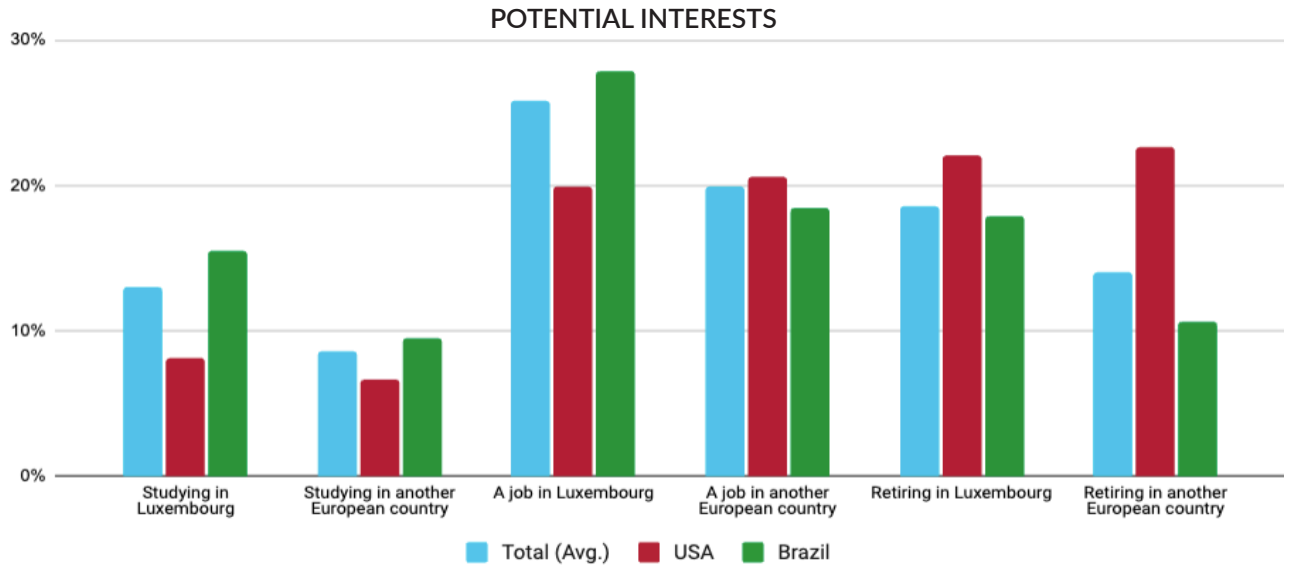
INTERESTS AND MOTIVATIONS

Potential Interests

We asked the respondents how they hope to use their Luxembourgish dual nationality in the future, particularly when it comes to studying, working, and retiring in Europe. The American respondents generally plan to take advantage of their Luxembourgish nationality later in life (for retirement purposes), while the Brazilian and Argentine respondents envision more immediate plans to study or work in Luxembourg or another EU country.

24% of Brazilian, 9% of American, and 5% of Argentine respondents expressed interest in studying in Luxembourg. Extrapolated across the whole population, that could mean 5,138 dual national adults who are interested in furthering their education in the country. These respondents reported having 1,306 children, many of the which are minors, that could increase this number in the near future as well.

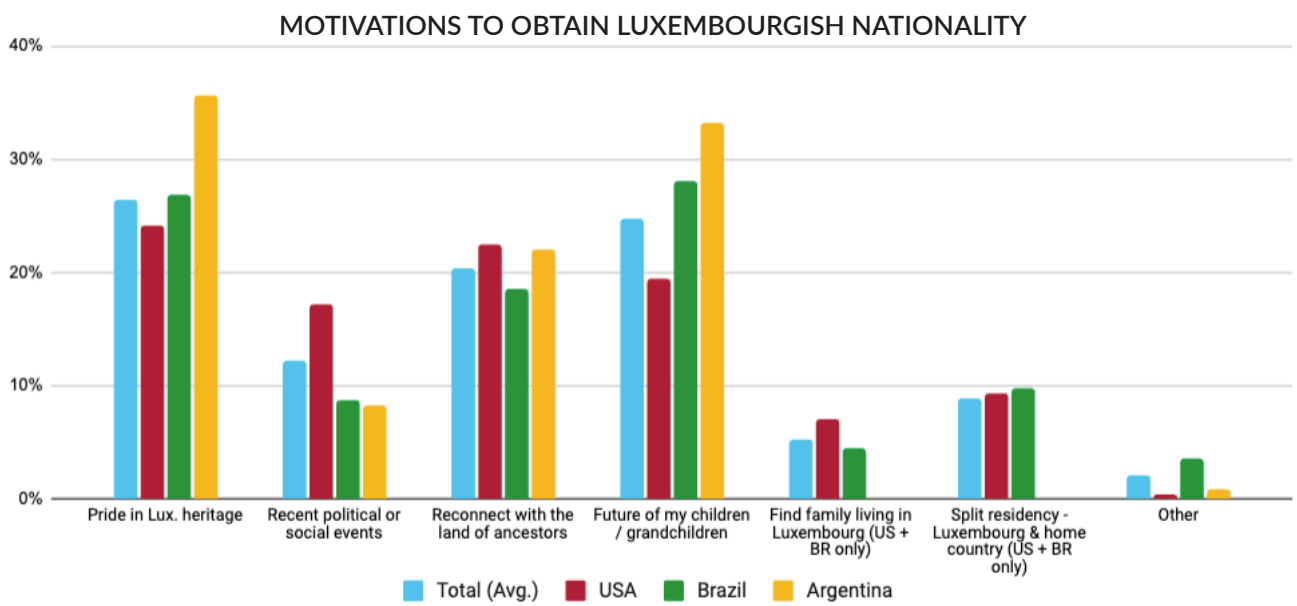
When looking at the respondents as a whole, they expressed higher levels of interest in working in Luxembourg than other European countries. 43% of Brazilian and 23% of American respondents are interested in working in the Grand Duchy. Overall, we estimate that this could mean 9,722 dual national adults from these two populations who have an overall interest in professional opportunities in Luxembourg.



Motivation for Applying for Nationality

The motivators leading the now dual nationals to apply for their nationality do vary between the populations, but some factors are shared. A common pride in their Luxembourgish heritage is prominent throughout, with 72.9% of respondents indicating that this was a major motivation. Similarly, considering the future of their children and grandchildren was also a common motivator for 68.5% of respondents. These two motivations were the top motivators for each country independently as well.

When it comes to differences, the American respondents were the most likely population to indicate that they were motivated to apply for Luxembourgish nationality due to recent political or social events in their home country, with 56% of American respondents indicating this was a motivating factor for them in comparison to 22.6% of the Brazilians and 16.1% of Argentines.



Final Report

The analysis of the Luxembourgish dual nationals, spanning American, Brazilian, and Argentine-Luxembourgers, offers invaluable insights into migration, educational, career, and motivation patterns, informing both policy-makers and the dual national community.

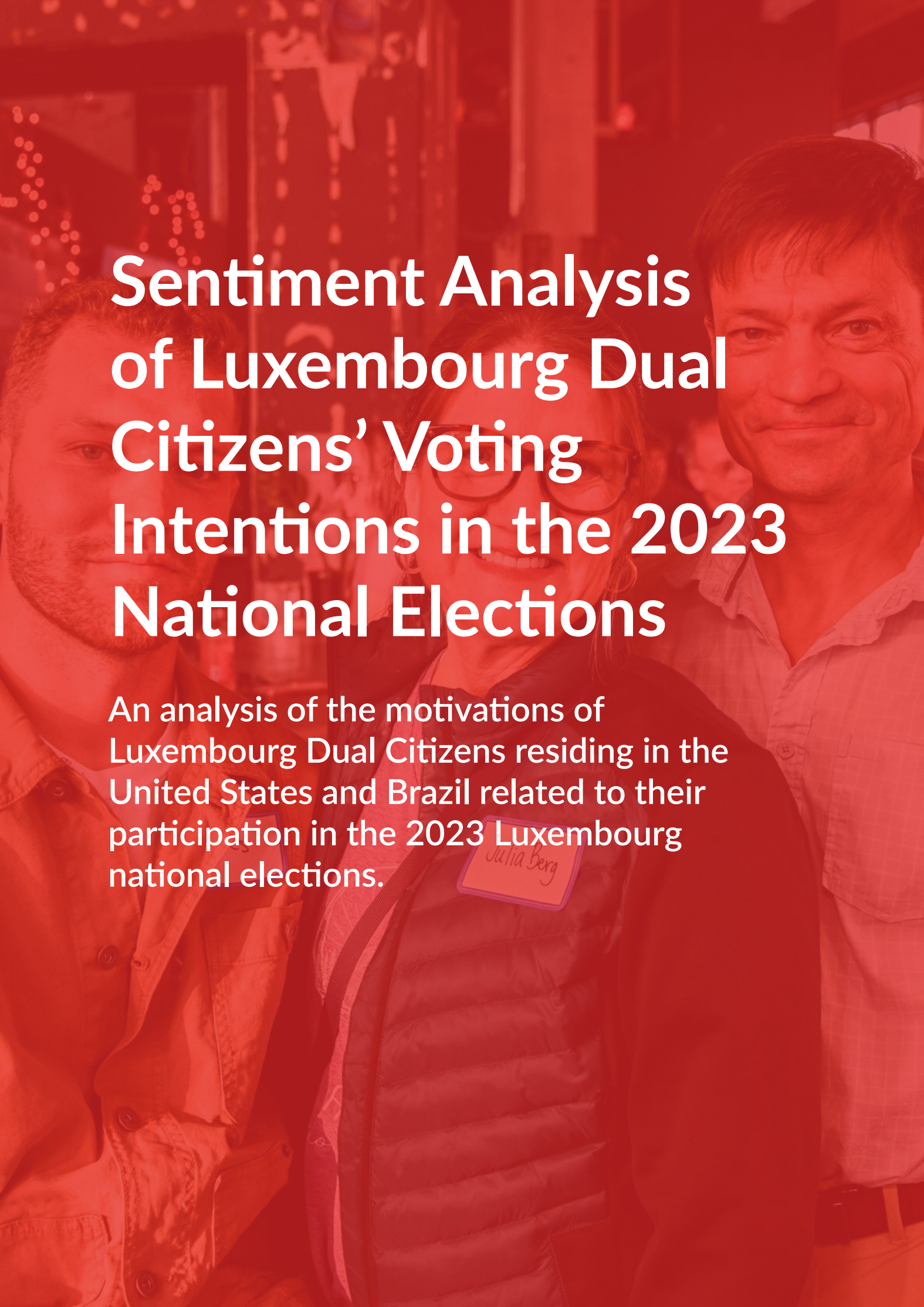
From a migratory perspective, the desire to relocate to Luxembourg is evident, particularly among Brazilian-Luxembourgers. Yet, patterns also show that while some are keen on immediate relocation, others view their Luxembourgish nationality as a potential asset for the future, possibly to ensure better opportunities for their offspring. These trends are exemplified by the considerable interest in pursuing education or careers in Luxembourg.

Educationally, Luxembourgish dual nationals are an academically inclined community, with a significant portion achieving education beyond high school. This strong educational foundation likely contributes to their diverse career paths, ranging from the arts to STEM. Each subgroup, be it American, Brazilian, or Argentine-Luxembourgers, has carved a niche in specific industries, enhancing the multifaceted character of the dual nationals.

Underlying these patterns are deep-rooted motivations. The pride in Luxembourgish heritage unites the dual nationals across nationalities. Yet, distinctive motivators, such as reactions to socio-political events or the allure of ancestral connections, also play a role, especially among American-Luxembourgers.

In summary, the Luxembourgish dual nationals comprise a dynamic, well-educated community with a keen sense of its roots and a forward-looking vision. Their motivations and aspirations offer potential avenues for strengthening ties with Luxembourg, fostering cultural exchange, and capitalizing on the dual nationals' unique skills and experiences for mutual growth.

As the world becomes more interconnected, understanding these dynamics is essential, ensuring that both the dual nationals and Luxembourg can collaboratively harness the opportunities the future holds.



Sentiment Analysis of Luxembourg Dual Citizens' Voting Intentions in the 2023 National Elections

An analysis of the motivations of Luxembourg Dual Citizens residing in the United States and Brazil related to their participation in the 2023 Luxembourg national elections.

Sentiment Analysis of Luxembourg Dual Citizens' Voting Intentions in the 2023 National Elections

This analysis explores the perceptions and motivations of Luxembourg dual citizens residing in the United States and Brazil regarding their participation (or lack thereof) in the 2023 Luxembourg national elections. Although many dual citizens did not ultimately participate in Luxembourg's elections in 2023 and 2024, this was largely due to administrative barriers related to registration, namely complications around obtaining a LuxTrust token from abroad and long wait times to obtain a Luxembourg passport or ID card. The sentiments revealed in the survey data provide valuable insights into their connection to Luxembourg, their sense of civic duty, and how they see themselves within Luxembourg society.

BACKGROUND

Luxembourg has experienced a sharp increase in the number of dual citizens, particularly through the recognition of ancestry-based claims to citizenship. In 2018, there were approximately 5,000 dual citizens. By 2023, this number had risen dramatically to nearly 40,000. This large influx of new citizens is primarily the result of descendants of Luxembourgish emigrants from the late 19th and early 20th centuries reclaiming their ancestral citizenship. These new citizens are largely spread across different regions, with a notable concentration in the United States and Brazil.

While the absolute number of participants in the election remained relatively low, the qualitative data collected through surveys reveals the range of reasons dual citizens were interested in voting. These reasons extend beyond administrative concerns and provide a glimpse into the evolving relationship between Luxembourg and its diaspora.

US DUAL CITIZENS: PERCEPTIONS AND MOTIVATIONS

Dual citizens residing in the United States expressed a variety of reasons for wanting to vote. Many of these reasons touched upon themes of civic responsibility, cultural connection, and long-term plans for reintegration into Luxembourgish society. Below are several individual responses that highlight the diversity of sentiment:

"To become a more active Luxembourg citizen."

This response reflects a desire for engagement and active participation in Luxembourg's civic life, even from abroad. The individual likely views the act of voting as a means of affirming their citizenship.

"I believe in the social contract and executing my responsibility as a citizen."

This statement emphasizes the concept of civic duty, indicating that the respondent feels an ethical obligation to contribute to the democratic process in Luxembourg, irrespective of their physical distance.

Sentiment Analysis of Luxembourg Dual Citizens' Voting Intentions in the 2023 National Elections

US DUAL CITIZENS: PERCEPTIONS AND MOTIVATIONS

"We intend to move to Europe in the next couple of years, so we want to be more engaged in Luxembourg's political system."

For some respondents, voting in the Luxembourg elections is part of a longer-term plan to reintegrate into Europe and possibly relocate to Luxembourg or another European country. Voting is seen as an important step in this reintegration process.

These sentiments suggest that for many US-based dual citizens, voting is tied to a broader understanding of citizenship, which encompasses both rights and responsibilities. The respondents see their Luxembourg citizenship as meaningful, despite not living in the country, and voting provides a tangible way to affirm that connection.

BRAZIL DUAL CITIZENS: A STRONGER SENSE OF BELONGING

Among dual citizens in Brazil, there was a distinct emphasis on identity and belonging. Many respondents conveyed a deep emotional connection to Luxembourg, suggesting that for them, voting was less about civic duty and more about affirming their place within the Luxembourgish community. Below are some notable responses:

"I live in Luxembourg and I feel part of society."

This response highlights a strong sense of belonging, likely reflecting the individual's current residence in Luxembourg and integration into local life.

"Feeling of belonging."

For many Brazilian dual citizens, reclaiming Luxembourg citizenship and participating in elections is about asserting their identity. This response points to a more symbolic motivation—voting is a way to strengthen their personal and cultural ties to Luxembourg.

"I believe that by voting, we can truly exist as citizens."

This sentiment suggests that voting is not just a civic action but an existential one. The act of voting helps the individual feel fully recognized as a Luxembourg citizen, despite potentially being geographically distant from the country.

Sentiment Analysis of Luxembourg Dual Citizens' Voting Intentions in the 2023 National Elections

OBSTACLES TO PARTICIPATION

Despite the strong motivations expressed by many dual citizens, logistical challenges remained a significant barrier to actual participation in the 2023 elections. The majority of respondents had only recently obtained their citizenship, and the process of registration and participation in Luxembourg's election system proved to be cumbersome for many.

For example, in the United States, respondents who expressed interest in voting faced difficulties in meeting registration deadlines or navigating the bureaucratic requirements. In Brazil, similar challenges were present, although the stronger cultural attachment in the responses suggests that emotional and symbolic ties to Luxembourg might have motivated higher participation rates if the process had been simpler.

Country	Motivation Theme	Percentage of Responses	Example Responses
USA	Civic Duty / Social Contract	45%	"I believe in the social contract and executing my responsibility as a citizen."
USA	Future Integration into Luxembourg	30%	"We intend to move to Europe in the next couple of years, so we want to be engaged."
USA	Cultural Affiliation	20%	"To become a more active Luxembourg citizen."
Brazil	Cultural Belonging	50%	"Feeling of belonging."
Brazil	Affirmation of Citizenship	40%	By voting, we can truly exist as citizens.
Brazil	Civic Duty / Social Contract	10%	"I believe in my duty as a citizen to vote."

CONCLUSION

The results of this survey reveal a multifaceted and evolving relationship between Luxembourg and its newly minted dual citizens. Although practical barriers prevented many from voting in the 2023 elections, the underlying motivations for wanting to participate—ranging from civic duty to personal identity—reflect the complex ways in which these citizens view their Luxembourgish citizenship. The responses from US and Brazilian citizens show that while the legal process of obtaining citizenship is relatively recent, the emotional and cultural ties are often deep-rooted, indicating a growing sense of connection between Luxembourg and its global diaspora.

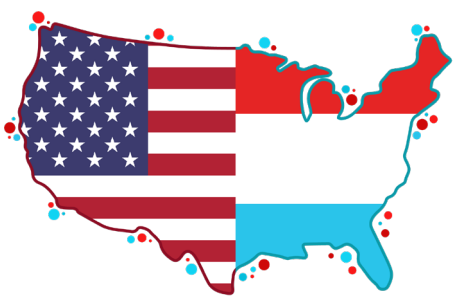
This sentiment is crucial as Luxembourg continues to engage with its emigrant populations, both in terms of fostering civic participation and building a transnational Luxembourgish identity.

Research Study Links

Since 2016, we have made it our mission here at LuxCitizenship to offer unique, data-based insights into who are the Luxembourgish dual nationals. In 2018 we launched the first version of our study, which is now in its 5th edition.

This study combines demographic information, Luxembourgish history, video interviews, surveys and public data to communicate the who, why and where of Luxembourg's dual nationals. 1,174 adult Luxembourgish dual nationals through ancestry responded to the survey that is the basis for this study, including 416 from the United States, 634 from Brazil and 124 from Argentina.

RESEARCH STUDY NAVIGATION - LUXCITIZENSHIP.COM/RESEARCH/



UNITED STATES

ANCESTORS - luxcitizenship.com/american-luxembourgers-ancestors/
About our dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors who immigrated to the US.

DUAL NATIONALS - luxcitizenship.com/american-luxembourgers/
A demographic overview of the 12,000 Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living in the US.

SURVEY - luxcitizenship.com/american-luxembourgers-survey/
A survey of how the Luxembourgish dual nationals in the US see their future with Luxembourg.

BRAZIL

ANCESTORS - luxcitizenship.com/brazilian-luxembourger-ancestors/
About our dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors who immigrated to Brazil.

DUAL NATIONALS - luxcitizenship.com/brazilian-luxembourgers/
A demographic overview of the over 25.000 Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living in Brazil.

SURVEY - luxcitizenship.com/brazilian-luxembourgers-survey/
A survey of how the Luxembourgish dual nationals in Brazil see their future with Luxembourg.

ARGENTINA

ANCESTORS - luxcitizenship.com/argentine-luxembourger-ancestors/
About our dual nationals' Luxembourgish ancestors who immigrated to Argentina.

DUAL NATIONALS -luxcitizenship.com/argentine-luxembourgers/
A demographic overview of the over 500 Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry living in Argentina.

SURVEY - luxcitizenship.com/argentine-luxembourgers-survey/
A survey of how the Luxembourgish dual nationals in the Argentina see their future with Luxembourg.

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About LuxCitizenship

ABOUT US

LuxCitizenship was founded in 2016 in New York by international affairs expert Daniel Atz. The core services we provide include genealogical research, legal process consulting, document requests, and translations necessary to obtain Luxembourgish dual nationality through ancestry.

As of September 1st, 2024, we have helped 1,900 American adults and minors obtain proof of Luxembourgish nationality. Another 222 are in the process of obtaining nationality. Our clients account for around 12.5% of all Luxembourgish Dual Nationals living in the United States. If our clients made up a commune in Luxembourg, there'd be more Luxembourgish nationals living there than in Bettendorf.

CREATING CONNECTIONS

Over the years, we've shifted our focus towards the mission of building community for the over **40,000** Luxembourgish Dual Nationals in the world and bringing them closer to Luxembourg.

Having traveled across the US, Brazil and Argentina to research the history of Luxembourgish emigration and the different descendants reclaiming Luxembourgish nationality today, we are convinced there is a unique imperative to build links between these peoples.

In 2023, we contributed 22.7% of our gross income to community building efforts, sponsorships and other charitable efforts focused on the Luxembourgish Dual Nationals in the Brazil, Argentina, the US and Luxembourg, of course. **We are engaged in concrete initiatives to bring Luxembourg closer to its nationals abroad.**

MEET THE LUXEMBOURG DUAL CITIZEN-OWNED BUSINESSES!

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